

SOTHERAN'S

YORK GUIDE;

INCLUDING

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ANTIQUITIES, &c. &c.

IN AND ABOUT

That Ancient City.

ILLUSTRATED WITH NINE COPPERPLATES.



Y O R K:

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TO
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THEOPHILUS DAVYE GARENCIERES, ESQ.
LORD MAYOR OF THE CITY OF YORK,
THE FOLLOWING PAGES,
GIVING A DESCRIPTION
OF
THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND OTHER CURIOSITIES,
IN AND ABOUT
THAT ANCIENT CITY,
OVER WHICH HE PRESIDES AS
CHIEF MAGISTRATE,
ARE INSCRIBED,
WITH ALL POSSIBLE RESPECT,
BY HIS LORDSHIP'S
MUCH OBLIGED,
AND VERY HUMBLE SERVANT,

YORK, March 5, 1796.

HENRY SOTHERAN.

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- 1 The Cathedral
- 2 S^t Michael le Belfrey
- 3 Trinity Ch. Goodramgate
- 4 S^t Maurice Monk Street
- 5 The County Hospital.
- 6 Merchant Taylors Hall
- 7 S^t Cuthbert Peasholm Green
- 8 S^t Anthony's Hall
- 9 Dissenters Chapel
- 10 The Free School
- 11 Christ Church
- 12 S^t Saviours Ch.
- 13 S^t Crux Ch.
- 14 Merchants Hall
- 15 M^{rs} Wilson's Hospital
- 16 S^t Dyons' Ch. Walmgate
- 17 S^t Margrets Ch.
- 18 Walmgate Bar
- 19 S^t Marys Castlegate
- 20 All Saints Pavement
- 21 S^t Michaels Spurriergate
- 22 Common Hall
- 23 Ouse Bridge
- 24 M^{rs} Middleton's Hospital
- 25 S^t Mary Bishop Hill the Elder
- 26 S^t Mary Bishop Hill the Younger
- 27 Trinity Ch. Micklegate
- 28 S^t Thomas's Hospital
- 29 Micklegate Bar
- 30 Lady Hewlay's Hospital
- 31 S^t Martins Ch.
- 32 S^t Johns
- 33 S^t Martins Coney Street
- 34 All Saints North Street
- 35 S^t Sampsons Ch.
- 36 S^t Hellens Ch.
- 37 Mansion Ho. & Guild Hall
- 38 The Assembly Rooms
- 39 S^t Olaves Marygate
- 40 Old Maids Hospital
- 41 Bootham Bar
- 42 The Play House
- 43 Monk Bar



A Plan of the CITY of YORK

THE YORK GUIDE.

ORIGIN, &c. OF THE CITY.

EBORACUM, or York, the metropolis of Eborasciria, or Yorkshire, situate near the centre of the island, in a rich and extensive valley, on the confluence of the rivers Ouse and Foss, derives its origin from very early ages. The great difficulties attending the etymology of the name, are themselves a proof of its very great antiquity.

Ebraucus, the son of Mempricius, the third king from Brute, built a city north of Humber, which, from his own name, he called *Kaer-Ebrauc*; that is, the city of Ebraucus. In the British appellation *Kaer-Ebrauc*, we are to find out the Roman **EBORACUM**. "Some learned men," says Sir Thomas Widdrington, "to denote it short, wrote *e*, the second Latin vowel, with an apostrophe; the Italians, by inadvertency, have changed it into *o*, the fourth, and for *Eberacum* write *Eboracum*; for which reason *Civitas Ebrauci* is now called *Civitas Eborauci*."

The first account we have, that can be relied on, is about the year 208, when the Emperor Severus, attended by his two sons Caracalla and Geta, arrived in Britain. He made York his chief place of residence, and died there.

It was in this emperor's days that York shone in its full lustre; for the prodigious concourse of tributary kings, foreign ambassadors, &c. which almost crowded the courts of the sovereigns of the world, when the Roman empire was in its prime, must have brought it to the height of sub-lunary grandeur.

That the memory of this emperor, in Britain, might last as long as the world, his grateful army, with infinite labour, raised three large hills, one in honour of their deceased monarch, and the other two for his surviving sons, Caracalla and Geta.

These hills seem to have been raised from a flat superficies, and the place whence this vast quantity of earth was dug, is now a small village at the foot of the hills, called Hologate. The exact mensuration of these venerable remains of Roman grandeur, as to altitude and diameter, is as follows, viz. the largest is 308 yards in diameter, and 44 yards one foot in height; the second is 210 yards in diameter, and 32 yards in height; and the least is 100 yards in diameter, and 27 yards in height. They are situated about a mile and a half W. of the city.

Constantine the Great, who is believed to have been born in York about 272, for the better government of his vast and extensive dominions, divided the whole into four præfectures, viz. Italy, Gaul, the East, and Illyria, which contained under them fourteen large dioceses or provinces. Britain, of the fourteen, was subject to the præfect of Gaul; and this province was again subdivided by the emperor into three parts, or principalities, viz. *Britannia Prima*, or the country south of the Thames, the capital station probably London; *Britannia Secunda*, was Wales, the capital perhaps Isca, or Caer-leon; and *Maxima*, or *Flavia Cæsariensis*, the capital city most certainly York.

Though

Though it is not to be expected that we should meet with such noble remains of high-roads round York as are yet apparent in Italy, nevertheless we can boast of several remarkable vestiges in this kind of Roman industry, which are at this time to be seen in our neighbourhood; and these roads, tending all from different sea-ports and stations, and pointing directly at the city itself, must have made it very considerable.

About 500 years from Cæsar's first attempt on this island, 400 from the conquest by Claudius, the Romans entirely evacuated it; when the Scots and Picts seized on all the country as far as Hadrian's wall, which, without resistance, they made themselves masters of. It was not long before these enemies had undermined and broken down the ramparts the Romans had built for their defence; and then they rushed in and bore down all before them. The poor dispirited Britons were slaughtered without mercy. In this dreadful calamity they called aloud in vain on their old friends to help and support them.

The Britons finding they were not to expect any succour from the Romans, called in the Saxons to their assistance; and Hengist, their general, upon his arrival in Britain with his army, immediately marched against the enemy; and near unto York a bloody battle was fought, wherein the Saxons had the better, slew a great number of the Picts and Scots, took from them the city of York, and all the country on this side the river Tees. The blow was so great, that had the Saxon general followed it, the war would quickly have been at an end; but this leader of auxiliary troops was too wise and politic to act in that manner; for, not willing to drive the Scots and Picts quite home again, which was to put an end to the war at once, he chose rather to withdraw his army to the city of York, where he staid some time to refresh, as he pretended, his wearied troops.

The Britons suspecting the Saxons' design of settling in Britain, sent for Aurelius Ambrosius, from Armorica, to defend them, who defeated the Saxons in four several battles. Under this leader, Hengist, the Saxon general, met his fate, being slain at Conisbrough after a most obstinate and bloody engagement.

In 521 the British Arthur gained a most decisive victory over the Saxons on Badon-Hills, (said to be our Black-a-moor) where 90,000 of the enemy were slain, and the city of York delivered up to him as soon as he approached it. In this year that great monarch, with his clergy, all his nobility and foldiers, kept Christmas here; the first festival of the kind ever held in Britain.

Arthur, after all his conquests, had the misfortune to be slain in a rebellion of his subjects, and by the hand of his own nephew. After whose death, dissensions arising among the British princes, the Saxons so far prevailed as to gain an entire conquest over all, driving the miserable remains of the Britons, who would not submit to their yoke, to seek shelter in the Cambrian mountains; where their posterity, according to Welsh history, have ever remained.

Our Saxon conquerors divided the territories of the plundered Britons into seven shares, which since is styled the heptarchy.—The division of the kingdom of the Northumbers, which is more immediately our concern, because its capital was York, contained all that part of the island from the Humber mouth to St. Johnston in Scotland.—This country was divided by Oëta, the son of Hengist, into two parts, Deira and Bernicia, over both which Ida reigned, a lineal descendant (according to the Saxon genealogy) from their famous god Woden. Ida left two sons, to whom he divided his dominions, and gave Deira to Ella, whose kingdom took in all from the
Humber

Humber to the Tyne; and Bernicia to Adda his other son, which contained all northward from that boundary. Of all the kingdoms of the Saxons, this of Deira was of the shortest continuance; it began by a division of the whole Northumbrian district between the sons of Ida, and was again united under Osmin, 91 years after Ella.

York was, at this period, the capital of Deira only; but the district was large, and took in all Yorkshire, Lancashire, Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and some part of Northumberland at first; though since, the country betwixt the German ocean, the Humber, and the river Derwent, now the east-riding, bore that appellation.

In the year 1070 William the Conqueror laid siege to York, when, after a gallant defence of about six months, it surrendered. Earl Waltheof, the governor, had rendered the siege so exceedingly difficult, that William despaired of subjecting it, until he drew the whole force of the kingdom against it, beleaguering the city quite round, being resolved to starve the inhabitants into compliance. This method took, and famine began to rage so violently within the walls, that it obliged the besieged to try the victor's clemency. William regarded neither oaths nor promises to obtain his object:—The terms of capitulation were as honourable as possible, considering the circumstances the city was in. However, when he had gained possession, notwithstanding the articles, William immediately ordered the city to be razed to the ground, and at the same time put to death all the principal nobility and gentry, and most of the other inhabitants. Nor did his malice stop here, but, lest the country should be capable of supporting the city in this dreadful calamity, he laid waste all the land between York and Durham, drove out the inhabitants, and made the whole so desolate,

that for nine years after neither plough nor spade was put into the ground.

One of the first parliaments mentioned in history by that name, was held in York, about the year 1160, in the reign of Henry II. At this convention Malcolm the Scotch king was summoned to appear, to answer to such articles as were to be alleged against him by Henry. The chief article was, that Malcolm, when he attended the English king, in his wars in France, betrayed all their councils to the enemy. The Scotch king overthrew the allegation, but he could not prevent the sentence passing on him, which, it is supposed, was the reason of his being summoned, that was, to lose all the lands he held of Henry in England, and to do homage also for his kingdom of Scotland for himself and successors. On Malcolm's doing homage, which was what Henry chiefly aimed at, he relinquished Northumberland from the former part of the sentence. This condescension of their king the Scotch nobility highly resented, and, at his return, were with great difficulty brought to forgive him.

In the succeeding reign of Richard I. *anno* 1189, and at his coronation, an accident happened of singular concern to our city, and attended with such consequences as history can scarce parallel.—The Jews were first introduced into England by William the Conqueror; a tribe of these had placed themselves at York, where, by trade, they were grown so immensely rich, that they were found to be worth plundering both by prince and people, as often as they could form an excuse for the purpose. The fear they constantly lived under made them take all opportunities, by rich presents, to ingratiate themselves with the reigning prince. Richard I. was as zealous a Christian as ever sat on the English throne, and as bitter an enemy to its opponents. Notwithstanding which the Jews were
undisturbed

undisturbed; but abhorring their religion, he strictly commanded that, at his coronation, no Jews should appear either at church or at dinner. Some of the richest and principal men of the Jews in the kingdom were summoned from all parts where they resided, by their brethren in London, to come up to the coronation, and present some very rich gift to the new king, in order to procure his friendship toward them. The chief of the Jews at York were two very rich and wealthy merchants and very great usurers, called Benedict and Jocenus, or Joccus. These went to London with a pompous retinue, in order to meet their brethren, and attend the coronation. Notwithstanding the king's injunction, many of the Jews had the curiosity to mix with the crowd, in order to see the ceremony; where being discovered by the guards, they were beat and abused, and some few were slain. The people took it presently for granted that the king had given orders they should all be destroyed. Possessed with this notion, a general massacre began in London, where the Jews were murdered, their houses plundered, and burnt to the ground with their wives and children in them. The king immediately ordered a proclamation to stop these proceedings on the severest penalties; notwithstanding which, the example of the metropolis was followed by divers other places in the realm, as at Norwich, Lynn, Stamford, but especially at York. Benedict and Jocenus having had the curiosity to go among the rest to see the ceremony, Benedict was grievously wounded and bruised in the conflict, and being dragged into a church, was there forced to renounce Judaism and be baptised. The next day, when the tumult had ceased, he was brought before the king, who demanded whether he was a Christian, or no? Benedict answered, that he had been forced into baptism, but that

he continued a Jew in his heart, and ever should do ; that he chose much rather to suffer death at his hands, since the severe usage he had undergone the day before informed him that he could not long survive it. At which words he was restored to the Jews; but the miserable man soon after expired.

Jocenus, his companion, had the good fortune to escape the fray in London; but at York, where he thought himself the safest, he met with a much worse fate. The king soon after going on his voyage to the Holy Land, had left orders with the lord chancellor to protect the Jews, and punish severely all that should offend them. But this was little regarded at York, for a conspiracy was formed against them by several of the city and county. A considerable part of the city took fire in a very boisterous night, by accident as was said, but it was generally supposed to have been perpetrated. At this juncture the conspirators broke into the house of Benedict, which, being prodigiously strong, his wife, children, and friends had made a sanctuary of it, as dreading some commotion. But this being overcome by engines prepared for the purpose, they entered and murdered the whole family, gutted the house, afterwards set fire to it, and burnt it to the ground. An alarm of this kind struck all the Jews at York with the utmost terror; but Jocenus especially dreaded their fury so much, that he got leave of the governor to convey all his vast bulk of wealth into the castle, as if it had belonged to the king, or was under his protection. In a very few days these banditti, with greater force and fury, returned and attacked the house of Jocenus; which underwent the same fate as the former; except that the Jew, presaging the evil, had withdrawn himself, wife, and children, into the castle. His example was followed by most of the Jews in the city, leaving few

or none of their goods behind them.' The robbers being enraged at the loss of so much plunder, which they had already devoured in their minds, threw off all disguise or any fear of magistrates or laws, and not being content with the destruction of their houses, slew like madmen on some Jews that were left out of the castle, and either forced them to be baptised or suffer immediate death. Whilst this was acting in the city, the multitude of Jews who had taken sanctuary in the castle, seemed perfectly secure from the malice of their enemies: but it happened that the governor coming out of the castle upon some business of his own, when he would have returned was prevented by the Jews, who feared lest in this time he might have made some agreement with their enemies to deliver them up. The governor went immediately to the high-sheriff of the county, who was then in York, and told him that the Jews, under pretence of begging protection in the castle, had fraudulently shut him out of it. The high-sheriff was angry to the last degree; and being still inflamed by those near him, who wished the Jews no good, saying it was the highest indignity to the person of the king himself to have one of the most considerable fortresses in the kingdom seized by these miscreants, he instantly ordered out the writ of *posse comitatus* to raise the country to besiege the castle; when an innumerable company of armed men, as well from the city as country, rose at once and begirt the fortress round. When the high-sheriff saw this he began to repent of his too hasty order, and would fain have recalled his writ; but, to those incensed people, whatever he could say or do, by authority or reason, was to no purpose. The Jews, being driven to great distress, held a council among themselves what was to be done; they had offered a mighty sum of money to escape with their lives, but it was rejected. When
a certain

a certain rabbin, or doctor of the law, who was come from a foreign part to teach and instruct the Jews, stood up amongst them, and said, “ Men of Israel, our God, whose laws I have prescribed to you, commands that we should at any time die for our law ; and behold, now death looks us in the face, and we have but to choose whether we should lead a base and scandalous life, or take the best method to come at a gallant and glorious death. If we fall into the hands of our enemies, at their own will and pleasure we must die ; but our Creator, when he gave us life, did also enjoin us that with our own hands, and of our own accord, we should devoutly restore it to him again, rather than wait on the cruelty of any enemy. This many of our brethren, in many great tribulations, have bravely performed ; they knew how to do it, and the most decent manner of execution is pointed out to us.” Many of the Jews embraced the dreadful counsel of the rabbin ; but the rest thought his advice much too harsh, and would not consent. The elder perceiving this, said, “ Those that this good and pious course displeases, let them separate and be cut off from the holy congregation ; we for the sake of our paternal law despise the love of transitory life.”—Several withdrew upon this, and rather chose to try the victor’s clemency than follow the rabbin’s advice. Before they began to execute the horrid sentence, the elder commanded that all the rich household goods, stuff, and garments, should be publicly burnt ; nay, even their plate, which would not suffer by the fire, was by an artful method strangely damnified, lest the enemy should be enriched by their spoils. This done, and fire put to all the towers of the castle, whilst their companions who had chosen life looked sullenly on, each man prepared for the slaughter. Being told by their elder that those who bore the

the

the steadiest minds should first cut the throats of their wives and children, the celebrated Jocenus began the execution by doing that barbarous act on his own wife and five children. The example was speedily followed by the rest of the masters of families; and afterwards the rabbin cut the throat of Jocenus himself, as a point of honour he chose to do him above the rest. In the meantime the fire that had been put to the castle raged greatly; which those poor Jews who had chosen life endeavoured as much as possible to quell. At day-break the besiegers thronged as usual to assault the fortress; when the wretched remains of the massacre within stood upon the walls, and in a lamentable manner declared the horrid catastrophe of their brethren; they threw their dead bodies over the wall to convince them of it; and in a moving and supplicating manner begged mercy, with an assurance of all of them turning Christians. But the heads and ringleaders of these merciless blood-hounds, of whom one Richard, called for his bestiality *Mala Bestia*, was the chief, took no compassion on their sufferings. However, feigning a concern, the Jews let them into the castle; which was no sooner done than they slew every one of the poor creatures, who to the last cried out for baptism. This exploit performed, the heroes ran strait to the cathedral church, where the bonds the Christians were bound to the Jews in for money were deposited, and violently broke open the chests, took and burnt all the writings in the midst of the church, and thus set themselves and many more free from their usury.

This massacre happened at York on the 11th day of March, *anno* 1189-90. There were about 500 men took sanctuary in the castle, besides women and children; so that the slaughter must have been very considerable; and not less than 1000 or 1500 persons destroyed.

In

In 1306 Edward I. removed the courts of justice from London to York: After continuing here seven years, they were removed back.

In 1319 Edward II. set out from York to besiege Berwick; but he was scarcely got thither when Thomas Randolph, earl of Murray, the Scotch general, passed the river Solway, and marched another way into England, where he wasted all with fire and sword till he came to the very gates of York. The city, however, he did not attempt to besiege, but burnt and destroyed the suburbs; which done, he marched back towards his own country. The archbishop of York, William de Melton, a reverend, grave, old divine, but a young soldier, took up arms, and assembled such forces as he could raise, composed of clergymen, monks, canons, and other spiritual men of the church, with a confused heap of husbandmen, labourers, artificers, and tradesmen, amounting in all to the number of 10,000, the archbishop and the bishop of Ely, (lord chancellor) being their leaders. This army followed the Scotch, and overtook them at Myton-upon-Swale, about eleven miles from York. The Scotch army finding themselves pursued, drew upon the other side of the river. They then set fire to some hay-stacks which were upon the place, the smoke of which driving with a brisk wind in the faces of the English as they passed the river, so blinded them that they could not see the enemy, who came down in good order upon them, and without any great resistance entirely routed them. There were slain and drowned of the English above 2000, some say 4000; the rest, with their generals, made great haste back to the city. In this conflict fell Nicholas Flemming, then mayor of York, who had headed up his citizens to the battle.

On

On Trinity-Sunday, *anno* 1327, Edward III. gave a solemn and magnificent feast in York, to a company of Hainaulters, who had come to assist that monarch in his wars against the Scots. There was a most splendid entertainment, and at night there was a gallant ball; but while the lords and ladies were in the midst of their diversion, a hideous noise interrupted them, and alarmed the whole court. It seems the servants and pages of these foreign auxiliaries had, by their insolence, so exasperated the minds of some English archers, who lodged with them in the suburbs, that a great fray began among them. This discord continually increased, new abettors successively coming in on each side, till near 3000 of the archers being collected, many of the Hainaulters were slain, and the rest flying, were fain to enter their lodgings, and fortify themselves as well as they could against the fury of their enemies. Most of their commanders were at court; but on the first noise of the fray they hastened to their lodgings to defend themselves and their people. Some part of the city was fired in the disturbance, many of the Hainaulters were slain, and more hurt; but at last, by the authority of the king, the archers were stayed, and the quarrel ceased for that time. But in the night the strangers, not so much thinking of sleep as revenge, being headed by their commanders, arose privately, and joining together set upon the archers of Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, and slew 300 of them. In the morning they had certainly paid dear for this desperate action, for a body of 6000 English soldiers had combined together to kill them every man, either within doors or without, as they came at them; but the king took care to protect the foreigners by setting strong guards about their lodgings, and displacing the archers from their former quarters.—In this fray 80 Lincolnshire men were slain, who lie buried under
one

one stone in the churchyard of the now-demolished church of St. Clement's, in Fossgate.

Anno 1389, Richard II. came to York, in order to accommodate some differences which had arisen betwixt the archbishop, the dean, and chapter, and the mayor and commonalty of the city. The affair was of great consequence, but the king, by his excellent management, perfectly settled it, and was so favourable to the citizens as to grant them almost all they desired of him. It was at this time (say our records) king Richard took his sword from his side, and gave it to be borne before William de Selby, as first lord mayor of York.

The courts of King's Bench and Chancery were removed from London to York, *anno* 1392, at the instigation of Thomas Arundel, then archbishop of York, and lord-chancellor of England. This was designed for the benefit of the city, but they remained here only from Midsummer to Christmas, and then returned. In this year king Richard presented the first mace to the city, to be borne before the lord mayor thereof: And in 1396, in the 19th year of his reign, he appointed two sheriffs instead of three bailiffs, and made it a county of itself; which with several privileges and large immunities recited in the charter granted by this king to the city and citizens of York, prove that he paid an extraordinary regard to it.

In the tower of London is lodged a grant from Edward IV. to this city, in indemnification for the damages it had sustained during the dreadful wars of York and Lancaster. The patent is dated at York, June 10, *anno* reg. 4, 1464, and expresses the king's great concern for the sufferings and hardships the city had undergone during these wars, insomuch as to be almost reduced to poverty by them. In consideration of which he not only relinquishes the usual farm of the city, but assigns them an
annual

annual rent of 40*l.* to be paid them out of his customs in the port of Hull, for twelve years to come.

Richard III. came to York in the year 1483, where he was received with great honour. He was crowned for the second time with great solemnity in the cathedral on the 8th day of September. Before he left York, in gratitude for the loyalty and attachment which had been shewn him, he made a most royal gift to the city; of which we find this imperfect memorial:

MEMORANDUM,—“ That the xviith day of the month
 “ of September, in the first yere of the reign of king Ri-
 “ chard the Third, John Newton then being mair of the
 “ cite of York, our said sovereign lord the king, of his
 “ most special gude grace, remembering the gude service
 “ that the cite hath don to his gude grace made
 “ to defray and fitt in the yorney made to Edinburgh and
 “ to London to the coronation of his gude
 “ grace; callid afore his gude grace the said day to the
 “ chapter-house of the catedral church of S. Peter in
 “ York, the said mair, his bredyr the aldermen, and mong
 “ other the commons of the said cite, and then and there
 “ our said sovereign lord openly reherfed the said service
 “ to his gude grace don, and also the decay and the great
 “ poverty of the said cite, of his most special gude grace
 “ without any petition or asking of any thing by the said
 “ mair or any odyr, our said sovereign lord only of his
 “ abundant grace most graciously and habundantly granted
 “ and gave in relief of the said cite in esyng of the tolls,
 “ murage, butcher-pennys, and skait-gild of the said cite
 “ yerely xxiii *l.* xi *s.* i *d.* for evyr; that is to say, for the
 “ murage xx*l.* and the residue to the sheriffs; so that from
 “ thence forward it shold be lefull to every person com-
 “ ing to the said cite with their guds and cattell, and them
 “ freely

“ freely to sell in the same without anything gratifying
 “ or paying for toll or murage of any of the said
 “ guds; and his grace most graciously granted to the
 “ mair and commonality of the said cite yerely xl d. forever;
 “ to the behoof of the commonality and chamber of the said
 “ cite; and yerely to the mair for the tyme being, as his
 “ chief serjeant at ayms, xii d. of the day, that is to say,
 “ by the yere xviii l. vi s.*”

From this period no occurrence worthy notice happened until the 27th of Henry VIII. when the suppression of monasteries and the innovations in religion caused several commotions in England, especially in the northern parts. Among the rest, was one headed by several people of high rank. These men, at the head of 40,000 priests, peasants, and labourers, declared by their proclamation, solemnly made, “ That this their rising and commotion should extend no farther, than only to the maintenance and defence of the faith of Christ, and deliverance of Holy Church, fore decayed and oppressed; and also for the furtherance as well of private as public matters in the realm, in regard of the welfare of the king’s poor subjects.”

This

* To give the reader a better notion of the value of these royal gifts, take this *computus* from the *Chronicon Pretiosum* of Bishop Fleetwood, of what price corn bore in the south of England, in 1463, just twenty years before this.

Anno 1463, at London, s. d.				At Norfolk the same year.			
Wheat per quarter	2	0		Wheat	—	1	8
Barley	—	—	1 10	Barley	—	1	0
Peas	—	—	3 4	Malt	—	1	8
Oats	—	—	1 2	Oats (Mr. Stowe)	1	0	

So that the value of one shilling, even in the time of the civil wars, bought one quarter of barley or oats, which makes the donation very considerable.

This infurrection was styled, by the ringleaders of it "The Pilgrimage of Grace;" and under that specious pretence they kept together some time, and committed several outrages. The king sent an army against them, with a proclamation for a general pardon, which had the good effect to disperse the crowd, and the leaders of the revoltors were taken; most of whom, with the abbots of Fountains, Jervaulx, and Rivaux, with the prior of Bridlington, were executed at Tyburn.

The king intending the suppression of the greater monasteries, which he effected in the 31st of his reign, raised a president and council at York, and gave them two several powers and authorities, under one great seal, of Oyer and Terminer, &c. within the counties of York, Durham, Northumberland, Westmoreland, and Cumberland, the city of York, and county of the same, the city of Carlisle, the town and county of Kingston-upon-Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Berwick-upon-Tweed. This court was continued till the troublesome times of Charles I.

On Saturday the 16th of April, 1603, James I. arrived at York, in his first progress from Edinburgh to London; where he stayed till Monday.—The king seemed to be so much pleased with the duty and attention paid him by the lord mayor and citizens, that at dinner with them he expressed himself much in favour of the city; seemed concerned that the river was in so bad a condition; and said, "It should be made more navigable, and that he himself would come and be a burghers among them."

In 1604, no less than 3512 persons died of the plague in York; the markets were all cried down; the lord president's courts adjourned to Ripon and Durham, and many of the inhabitants left their houses; the infected were sent to the moors near the city, where booths were erected

for them of boards; and the Minster and Minster-yard were close shut up.

Charles I. in a journey to Scotland, visited York May 24, 1633. He was met on Tadcaster-bridge by the sheriffs with a grand train of attendants, who conducted him into the city. On the 25th, the king dined with the lord mayor, William Allenfon, at his house in the Pavement, and knighted him and William Belt, then recorder: The next day he dined with the archbishop, and knighted his son; and on the 27th, took coach at the Manor for Scotland.

The Scots rebelling, the king came again down to York, March 30, 1639, on an expedition against them, accompanied by most of the nobility and general officers of the kingdom. He was met by the sheriffs at Tadcaster, and conducted by them to Micklegate-bar, where he was met by the lord mayor, recorder, aldermen, &c. On the Sunday after his arrival, he held a council in the Manor on the Scotch affairs; and as this was the chief place of rendezvous for the army that was to march against the rebels, the king's time was principally taken up with reviewing the troops which were quartered in the city and the neighbouring country towns.

After staying near a month in York, his majesty set off, with his nobility and all his army, towards Scotland. At his approach the Scots submitted, laid down their arms, and swore obedience to their sovereign. But the very next year (1640), when the king had disbanded his forces, and thought all quiet, the Scots, under the command of Alexander Leslie, earl of Leven, and the marquis of Montrose, invaded England in defiance of the most solemn engagements. To put a stop to this invasion, his majesty set out from London, accompanied by the marquis of Hamilton and the duke of Lenox, and in three days arrived

in York. The king, after keeping his court in the city five months, left York, and erected the royal standard at Nottingham.

In March, 1642, during the parliamentary troubles, the queen arrived in York from Helveotfluys, with a large quantity of artillery for the safeguard of the city, and in June, 1643, she set forward under a strong escort to his majesty.

In the following year the parliamentary forces, under Sir Thomas Fairfax, laid siege to York: But having advice that prince Rupert, with a large army was approaching, he raised the siege, and encamped on a large moor about five or six miles from the city, called Marston Moor, where he waited the coming of the enemy. On July 2, the armies met, and after a long and bloody engagement the royalists were entirely routed. After this victory the parliamentary forces once more laid siege to York, which after a defence of eighteen weeks surrendered on the most honourable terms.

In 1663, an insurrection broke out in Yorkshire, the leaders of which were all conventicle preachers and the old parliament's soldiers. Their pretences were, to redeem themselves from the excise and all subsidies; to re-establish a gospel magistracy and ministry; to restore the long parliament; and to reform all orders and degrees of men, especially the lawyers and clergy. In order to this they printed a declaration, beginning thus, "If there be any city, town, or country in the three nations that will begin this righteous and glorious work," &c. Accordingly a great number of men assembled in arms at Farnley-Wood, near Otley, in this county. But the time and place of rendezvous being known, a body of regular troops and some of the county militia, were sent against them, who seized upon several, and prevented the execution of their design. A commission was sent down to York in the

depth of winter to try the leaders: twenty-one of whom were condemned and executed, eighteen at York, and three in Leeds. Four of their heads were set upon Micklegate-bar, three at Bootham-bar, one at Walmgate-bar, and over the Castle-gates. Two of them were likewise quartered, and their quarters set upon the several gates of the city.

After this we find nothing material until the rebellion in 1745, when a subscription of 2435*l.* was raised in York, and 220*l.* in the ainfty, with which four companies of men, consisting of seventy each, uniformly clothed, were embodied for the safeguard of the city.

Of the great number of rebels tried and convicted at York, no more than 22 were executed. The heads of two of them were fixed on Micklegate-bar, whence they were stolen in the night of the 28th of January, 1754.

The new regulations of the militia-laws in the year 1757, being esteemed by the lower class of people an act of oppression, in compelling them to contribute equally with the rich, many yeomen, farmers, and others of the east-riding became riotous, and endeavoured by force to oppose its being carried into execution; for this purpose, a very numerous body, armed with guns, scythes, and clubs, went to Birdfall, the seat of Henry Willoughby, Esq. then high-sheriff of the county, and demanded a repeal of the militia-act. But, after several hours parley, in which the high-sheriff behaved with the utmost resolution, they were prevailed on to depart peaceably, having first extorted a promise from him to write to lord Irwin, lord-lieutenant of the riding, and that his lordship's answer should be dispersed amongst them. In the north-riding the riot was much more furious; for on the 15th of September, being the day appointed for the deputy-lieutenants of the wapentake of Bulmer to meet at the
cockpit-

cockpit-house without Bootham-bar, where the chief constables had orders to attend to give in their lists of persons qualified to serve in the militia, great numbers of farmers and country people assembled at York, in order to seize on such constables as were carrying in their lists; some of which they got, but not meeting the whole, they proceeded, in a large body, armed with clubs and other unlawful weapons, some on horseback, others on foot, thro' Monk-bar to the cockpit-house without Bootham-bar, where, not meeting with the deputy-lieutenants as was expected, they forced the lists from such constables as were in attendance; and, after drinking all the liquors in the house, they gutted and pulled it down. They then proceeded to Mr. Bowes's house on the opposite side of the street, which they also gutted and destroyed; and threatened to do the same to the houses of several other persons, whom they looked upon as promoters or favourers of the militia-act. The lord-mayor and high-sheriff of the county being informed of these violent proceedings, went in person amongst the rioters, and used all possible arguments to convince them how wrong it was to attempt relieving themselves from any thing they thought a grievance, by such unlawful methods; and assured them that they would use all the means in their power to remove any just occasion of complaint; upon which they dispersed. At the following assizes several of the rioters were tried and acquitted, except one George Thurloe, who was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death, but was afterwards transported for life.

In July, 1761, his royal highness Edward duke of York passed through York on his way to Scarborough: And in August following he returned, when the freedom of the city was presented to him in a gold box of one hundred

guineas value. His royal highness again visited York in the August race-week, 1766.

August 31, 1768, his Danish majesty arrived in York, about four o'clock, attended by many of his nobles and a grand retinue. In the evening the lord-mayor, recorder, city-counsel, aldermen, and sheriffs, in their formalities, waited on his majesty to compliment him on his arrival, and to desire that he would honour them at a ball and collation the next evening. He received them all very graciously, but excused himself from accepting of their invitation, as he proposed leaving York next morning; which he accordingly did. After having viewed the Minister and the assembly-rooms, he returned to London by the route of Leeds and Manchester.

On Monday, August 28, 1789, their royal highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York arrived on the race-ground, where they were received with the loudest acclamations; and on Tuesday the corporation waited on them, and presented the prince with the freedom of the city in a gold box of one hundred guineas value*. On Thursday the Prince of Wales honoured the lord-mayor with his company at dinner in the mansion-house, where he was entertained in the highest style of splendor. In the evening his royal highness ordered a performance at the theatre, which he attended. His royal brother, being incapacitated by illness, could not partake of any of the amusements during the whole of his stay.—On Monday following their royal highnesses set off southward. The prince dined at Byram with Sir John Ramsden, and then proceeded to Wentworth-house, the seat of Earl Fitzwilliam, where he arrived in the evening. The Duke of York

* His royal highness the Duke of York had the freedom of the city in a gold box in 1787, when he was visiting an estate in the neighbourhood of York.

York being still indisposed, continued his route for London. On Wednesday his lordship, in honour of his royal visitor, gave the most splendid and magnificent entertainment ever known in this part of England.

In 1795, his royal highness Prince William of Gloucester honoured York with his presence, where he resided about two months. During his stay he reviewed the York volunteer corps and the other regiments in the city. His royal highness also visited Hull, Scarborough, Whitby, Leeds, and Ripon, where he reviewed the regiments and volunteer corps lying at these places. The pleasing condescension and polite affability of the prince did not fail to procure him the warmest esteem of all descriptions of people in York. On his leaving the city, his royal highness was pleased to express his high sense of the polite attentions he received during his residence there.

Though foreign to our plan, we cannot avoid giving the following amiable trait of the prince's character:

In his visit to Ripon, when viewing the minster, his royal highness was particularly accosted by a young woman: he offered her his purse, which she refused: he then desired her to take out what money she pleased; her modesty was such that she only took a guinea. The prince, on inquiry concerning her, found that she was then but in low circumstances, and deranged in her mind, on which he ordered a chaise, and sent her to the York Lunatic Asylum, giving directions to the governors for her to be taken proper care of.

Having given a short history of the principal events that have taken place in York, from the earliest period to the present time, we shall next proceed to describe the places worthy a stranger's attention. We may with safety presume to say there are very few towns which can boast such monuments of antiquity as York.

THE first object that attracts the notice of a stranger, on his entering the city, is

THE CATHEDRAL.

ABOUT the year 625, when Edwin the Great was converted to Christianity by Paulinus, archbishop of York, a little oratory of wood was erected, to serve for the solemnization of divine service until a more suitable one was finished. By the archbishop's directions the king began to erect a magnificent fabric of stone in the place where the other stood. The building went on very fast, but scarcely were the walls erected, when the royal founder was slain in a battle with Cadwallo, king of Wales, at Hethfield, now called Hatfield Chace, in Yorkshire; the prelate was forced to fly the country, and the fabric left in the naked condition it had just arrived to.

In this manner the church lay neglected some time, until Oswald, a successor of Edwin's, about the year 632, undertook to finish what was so worthily begun, and lived to complete it. But scarcely was it brought to this perfection, when Oswald was slain in a battle by Penda, the Pagan king of Mercia, and the new-erected structure well nigh demolished. In this ruinous condition Wilfrid found it, on his being made archbishop of this province in the year 669. This prelate immediately set about, with the utmost vigour, to repair the damages the church had suffered. He repaired the walls, laid on the roof, took care to cover all with lead, and glazed the windows. After this the church stood and flourished, under the successive beneficence of its spiritual governors, for near 400 years,

The South West Prospect of the Cathedral Church of York.



years; in which time several additions and reparations must have been made to it, but what or how, history is silent in, except the library bestowed on it by archbishop Egbert: this extraordinary donation became the rich furniture of our church about the year 740.

During the Danish invasions, which were carried on with fire and sword quite through the kingdom, our city, and consequently the cathedral, must have shared the same fate, tho' no account appears of the misfortunes of the latter till the year 1069; when the Northumbrians, aided by the Danes, seeking to throw off the conqueror's tyrannical yoke, the garrisons in the castles, fearing lest the houses in the suburbs should serve the enemy to fill up the moats and ditches, set fire to them; which spreading, by an accidental wind, farther than it was intended, burnt down great part of the city, and with it the cathedral fell in almost one common ruin. The ancient fabric thus destroyed and laid in ashes, the canons of the church were expelled from their stalls, and the revenues of it seized into the conqueror's hands; but, after some time, having made Thomas, his chaplain and treasurer, archbishop of the province, he restored the temporalities to him; and this prelate took possession of his church and diocese in the year 1070, at a time when both were made desolate and near totally destroyed. Thomas, however, set himself heartily to work to restore them to their former splendor. The church he rebuilt much larger and nobler than it was before, recalled the banished ecclesiastics, filled the vacancies, and in short established, in every particular, the fabric in as good, or better condition than ever.

Once more raised to grandeur, the church continued in great prosperity, till the year 1137, when a casual fire began in the city, which burnt down the cathedral again, and, along with it, St. Mary's Abbey, and 39 parish-churches,

churches. It lay in ashes all the time of archbishop Henry Murdac and St. William, until Roger, archbishop, *anno* 1171, began to rebuild the choir, with its vaults, and lived to perfect them. Afterwards, in the reign of Henry III. Walter Grey, Roger's successor, added the south part of the cross-aisle of the church.

About the beginning of the reign of Edward I. *anno* 1269, John le Romain, treasurer of the church, began and finished the north transept, as also a handsome steeple in the midst. His son (the archbishop) proved yet a greater benefactor, for history informs us that, April 7, 1191, the foundation of the nave of this great church of St. Peter was laid from the west end eastward.

William de Melton, archbishop, was the next founder, *anno* 1320; who getting together good workmen, carried on the building his predecessor had begun, and finished the west end with the steeples, as it now remains.

Archbishop John Thoresby took down the choir that had been built by archbishop Roger, and laid the first stone of the present choir in the year 1361. He contributed 1670*l.* to the work, and finished it about the year 1370.

Walter Skirlaw, prebendary of Fenton, archdeacon of the east-riding, and afterwards bishop of the two sees of Lichfield and Durham, begun the present steeple in 1370, and was seven or eight years in finishing it.

Having now built our church, it will be necessary to take a survey of it. The whole pile is in the form of a cross, extending from east to west. The following are the exact dimensions.

	<i>Feet.</i>
The whole length, besides the buttresses, is	524½
Breadth of the east end — —	105
Breadth of the west end — —	109
Length of the cross aisle from north to south	222
	Height

	<i>Feet.</i>
Height of the lanthorn steeple to the vault —	188
Height of it to the top of the leads —	213
Height of the body of the church — —	99
Breadth of the side aisles, north and south —	18
Height of the side arches, north and south	42
From the west end to the choir door —	261
Length of the choir, from the steps ascending to } the door to the present altar-table	157 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breadth of the choir — —	46 $\frac{1}{2}$
From the choir-door to the east end —	222
Height of the east window — —	75
The breadth of it — —	32
Height of the chapter-house to the canopy	67
The diameter of it — —	63
Length of the library — —	34
The breadth of it — —	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
Length of the treasury — —	30
The breadth of it — —	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Length of the inner vestry — —	30
The breadth of it — —	23
Length of the vestry — —	44 $\frac{1}{2}$
The breadth of it — —	22 $\frac{1}{8}$
Height of the partition-wall near the organ, which } divides the choir from the church	24

THE CHAPTER-HOUSE.

TO begin with the outbuildings, we must first enter upon a description of the chapter-house, which disdains to allow an equal, in Gothic architecture, in the universe. There is some difficulty to ascertain the time of erecting this magnificent structure, the remaining records of the church bearing no account thereof. But by the style of archi-

architecture of which it is composed, it looks to be as ancient as any part of the church, and exactly corresponds, in taste, to that part of the fabric begun and finished by Walter Grey. And, indeed, if we may be allowed to guess at the founder, that prelate stands the fairest for it. The pillars which surround the dome are of the same kind of marble as those which support his tomb: but what seems to put the matter out of dispute, is the picture of an archbishop, betwixt those of a king and a queen, over the entrance; which, by having a serpent under his feet, into the mouth of which his crozier enters, exactly corresponds with the like representation of Walter Grey on his monument.

The whole pile of this building is an octagon of sixty-three feet diameter; the height of it, to the middle knot of the roof, is sixty-seven feet ten inches, unsupported by any pillar, and entirely dependent upon one pin, or plug, geometrically placed in the centre. The outside, however, is strongly supported by eight buttresses. The whole roof has been richly painted with the effigies of kings, princes, &c. and large silver knots of carved wood at the uniting of the timbers; all which are now much defaced and sullied by time. Over this is a spire of timber-work, covered with lead, excellent in its kind.

The entrance from the church to this noble room is in the form of a mason's square. Against the pillar, betwixt the two doors, stands an image of stone of the Virgin, with our Saviour in her arms, trampling on the serpent. The image, with the drapery, is somewhat elegant, and has been all richly gilt; but it bears a mark of those times which made even stone statues feel their malice.— On entering the house, the first things that are observed are the canons' seats, placed quite round the dome, which are all arched over, every arch being supported by small
marble

marble pillars, which are set at a due distance round, and separate the stalls. Over these arches, which are built like canopies, runs a gallery about the house, exquisitely carved, and has been so richly gilt and painted, as to be above description. The chapters or capitals of these small marble pillars have such a variety of carved fancies on them, alluding in some places to the ridicule the regular clergy were always fond of expressing against the seculars; in others to history, with strange conceits of the over-witty workmen of the age, that it is impossible to which stall to give the preference.

The eight squares of the octagon have each a noble light window in them, adorned with coats of arms, penances, and other devices, except one square, which is joined to the other building over the entrance; and this has been painted with the representations of saints, kings, bishops, &c. The three figures in the midst, we take to be Archbishop Walter Grey, standing between Henry III. and his queen. At the base of this square were placed the images of the twelve apostles, with that of the Virgin and the child Jesus in the midst of them. Tradition assures us, that these images were all of solid silver double gilt; the apostles were about a foot high, but that of the Virgin must have been near two feet, as appears by the marks where they stood.

The limits of this publication will not permit us to enter upon a description of the imagery and arms, in beautiful painted glass, of the nobility and gentry of England, who were originally contributors to the charge of erecting this part of the cathedral, and which are still preserved in the windows of this place.

THE

THE VESTRY

JOINS to the south side of the church ; it has a council-room and treasury contiguous to it. In this last were kept all the rents, revenues, grants, and charters, with the common seal belonging to the church ; and had a particular officer to inspect and take care of them.

The council-room, or inner vestry, where his grace of York robes himself when he comes to his cathedral, is a convenient place, rendered warm and commodious for the clergy to adjourn to from the chapter-house in cold weather. In it is a large press, where are kept those acts and registers of the church, which they want more immediately to consult on these occasions.

In the wall of the south corner of the vestry-room is a well of excellent water, called St. Peter's Well. Opposite is a great chest, of a triangular figure, strongly bound with iron bars ; which by its shape, must have once served to lay the copes and priests' vestments in. Along the north side are several large cupboards in the wall, in which formerly were locked up the church's plate, and other valuable things, but at present they are only enriched with the following curiosities : A canopy of state, of gold tissue, and two small coronets of silver gilt, which were given by the city for the honour of king James I. at his coming out of Scotland to this place, in his progress to London ; and the famous horn, if we may so call it, made of an elephant's tooth, which is indeed the greatest antiquity the church can exhibit.

This horn Mr. Camden particularly mentions as a mark of a strange way of endowment formerly used ; and from an old book, as he terms it, gives us this quotation about it :—“ Ulphus, the son of Toraldus, governed the west
“ part of Deira, and by reason of a difference like to hap-
“ pen

“pen betwixt his eldest son and his youngest, about his
 “lordships when he was dead, presently took this course
 “to make them equal; without delay he went to York,
 “and taking the horn, wherein he was wont to drink,
 “with him, he filled it with wine, and kneeling on his
 “knees before the altar, bestowed upon God and the
 “blessed St. Peter all his lands tenements,” &c.

The church of York ought to pay a high veneration to this horn, several lands belonging to it being still called *de Terra Ulphi*; and before the Reformation it was handsomely adorned with gold, and was pendant in a chain of the same metal. These ornaments were the occasion of its being taken away at that time; for it is plain by Mr. Camden's words, that the horn was not there in his days: “I was informed,” says he, “that this great curiosity was
 “kept in the church till the last age.” We are not therefore to blame the civil wars for this piece of pillage; for a principal actor in them, Thomas Lord Fairfax, was the occasion of its being preserved and restored to the church. Where it had lain, or where he got it, is uncertain; but, stripped of its golden ornaments, it was returned by Henry Lord Fairfax, his successor. The chapter thought fit to decorate it a-new, and to bestow the following inscription to the memory of the restorer upon it:—

CORNU HOC, VLPHIS, IN OCCIDENTALI PARTE
 DEIRÆ PRINCEPS, VNA CVM OMNIBVS TERRIS
 ET REDDITIBVS SVIS OLLM DONAVIT.

AMISSVM VEL AREPTVM

HENRICVS DOM. FAIRFAX DEMVM RESTITVIT.

DEC. ET CAPIT. DE NOVO ORNAVIT

A. D. M.DC.LXXV.

There is also a large, rich, and superb pastoral staff of silver, about seven feet in length, with a virgin and a
 young

young Saviour in her arms placed within the bend of it; under which, on one side, are engraven the arms of Katherine of Portugal, queen-dowager of England, who gave this staff to one Smith, her confessor, nominated to be the Popish archbishop of York by James II. in the year 1687. On the other side are Smith's family coat of arms, with a mitre and crozier, and a cardinal's cap over them; so confident was this man in his expectations of being raised to that dignity; which, however, he was so far from attaining, that within a little time this magnificent ensign of his pastoral office was wrested from him by a party headed by the earl of Danby, afterwards duke of Leeds, when he was marching in a solemn procession from the public Romish chapel in the manor, near St. Mary's abbey, to the cathedral of York; where his influence, at that time had so far prevailed as to have the great west doors opened to receive him. This staff was afterwards deposited in the hands of the dean and chapter.

In taking up the old pavement in 1736, the following rings were found, which are still kept in the vestry, and shewn by the vergers among the other curiosities, viz. Archbishop Sewall's, who died *anno* 1258, a plain ruby set in gold.—Archbishop Greenfield's, who died *anno* 1315, a plain ruby set in gold.—Archbishop Bowet's, who died *anno* 1423, a composition set in gold, with this motto, "*Honour et Joy*."—Archbishop Neville's, who died *anno* 1476, a sapphire set in gold.—Archbishop Lee's, who died *anno* 1544, glass set in copper gilt.

The place which is now called the vestry was not anciently such, but a chapel begun by archbishop Zouch; who, we are told, laid the foundation of a chapel, about the year 1350; in which he intended to have been buried; but, dying before it was finished, he was interred elsewhere.

where. This chapel is said to have been erected on the south side of the church: At the new erecting of the choir it was taken down, but rebuilt at the charge of Archbishop Zouch's executors.

THE LIBRARY

IS a building adjoining to the church on the south side, being a chamber of an oblong square over another room now made use of for the singing-school. Most of the volumes were the gift of Mrs. Matthews, the relict of Toby Matthews, archbishop, whose son, Sir Toby, having been disinherited by his father, was probably the reason that the mother bestowed her husband's books, to the number of 3000 volumes, on the church.

Thomas, the first archbishop of this see of that name, amongst his other great benefactions to this church, is said to have replenished the library, just then destroyed, with good and useful books. But these also underwent the same fate with the fabric, being both consumed in the fire which happened in the city *anno* 1137, in the reign of Stephen. We cannot find after this, that the church was remarkable for a collection of books, till the great gift of Mrs. Matthews once more gave it the name of a library.

The books are methodically digested into classes, according to the various learning they treat of, and a catalogue made of them. This was done by the care of Dr. Comber, then precentor of the church. They have since been augmented; and lately, by the bequest of Dean Finch, have received the addition of the "*Fœdera Anglicana*," in 17 tomes, and other scarce books. The library is chiefly remarkable for several valuable tracts in divinity and history; some manuscripts, amongst which is a "*Tully de Inventionem, ad Herrenium*," very perfect, and in a most neat character; bibles and psalters; the original

register of St. Mary's Abbey at York. But the manuscripts that are most valuable, to this library especially, are Mr. Torre's painful collections, from the original records, of all the ecclesiastical affairs relating to this church and diocese. The fine collection of the late Rev. Mr. Marmaduke Fothergill was also lately added to this library; so that it now contains a body of manuscripts, particularly in the English ritual and liturgical way, equal to most libraries in the kingdom.

Having described the out-buildings more immediately belonging to the church, we shall proceed to take an external view of the fabric.

The front, or west end, consists of two uniform steeples, running up to the setting on of their square tops, in ten several contractions, all cloistered for imagery. Indeed this part of the church has lost much of its beauty, by being robbed of a vast number of curious statues which once adorned it, the pedestals and niches of which look bare without them; but still it carries a grandeur inexpressible. On the top of the great doors sits the figure of Archbishop William de Melton, principal founder of this part of the church; but the image is much abused. Below, and on each side of the double doors, are the statues of Robert le Vavasour and Robert de Percy; the former of whom gave the use of his quarry at Tadcaster, for the masonry, and the other his wood at Bolton for the roofing of the building.

In the arch over the gate is the story of Adam and Eve in Paradise, with their expulsion, in fine tracery-work. This gate consists of double doors, which are seldom opened but at funerals, or for the reception of an archbishop in solemn procession for installation. At the basis of each of the towers are two smaller doors, daily open for entrance into the church at this end of the fabric.

In the south tower formerly hung a ring of twelve bells, which the present worthy dean, Dr. Fountayne, in 1765, took down, and exchanged for a new set of ten bells, which are allowed to be as complete a peal as any in the kingdom.

In taking a view of the south side of the church, we first observe six tall pinnacles, which have been raised as well for buttresses to the upper building of the nave, as ornaments; though now all the articles which joined them are taken away, we suppose, not being thought of any service. Towards the top of each of these pinnacles are cells for images, which are yet standing in them. The four to the west we take to be the representations of the four evangelists; the next, Christ with the paschal lamb; and the last, an archbishop; probably, from his juvenile look, the peculiar saint of this church, St. William.

The south entrance is ascended to by several courses of steps; and tradition assures us, there was once as great an ascent to the west door: If so, the ground has been much raised at that end, the soil being now level with the pavement of the church. However, this might happen from the vast quantity of chippings of stone, which not only served to level this part, but was also used to raise the foundations of all the houses on that side, as the ground, when dug into, sufficiently testifies, it being near two yards deep before the natural soil can be come at. Over this entrance formerly hung the bell for calling to prayers, but in the time of Dean Finch, it was removed to the top of the lanthorn steeple. A little spiral turret, called the fiddler's turret, from the image of a fiddler on the top of it, was taken many years ago from another part of the building, and placed on the summit of this end, which has added much to its decoration. Over the doors, by the care of the same dean, was also placed a handsome dial,

both horary and solar, below which two images used to strike the quarters on two small bells, till the chimes were taken down in 1752, and the new clock put up.

Eastward is presented to the view, the fine additional building erected by Archbishop Thoresby, being all the choir-end of the cathedral. It is easily discernible, by the outside, that this part is much newer, as well as of a nobler Gothic taste, than the west end. At the top of the finest window in the world, sits the archbishop, mitred and robed, in his archiepiscopal chair, having in his left hand the representation of a church, and seeming to point to the window with his left. At the basis of this noble light are the heads of the twelve apostles, with our Saviour in the middle. At the south corner is the head of a king crowned, designed, no doubt, for Edward III. in whose time this structure was erected; and at the north a mitred bishop projects, which can represent none likelier than the founder. On each side of this end also stand the statues of Percy and Vavasour armed, their shields of arms hanging by them.

The next part of the fabric we raise our eyes to, is the grand tower, or lanthorn-steeple, so called, we presume, from its resemblance to that luminary. It is a square building, supported on the inside by four large massy pillars of stone, which make four arches. On the south-west angle is now placed a cupola for the prayer-bell to hang in; but this structure is really a deformity, being of a different order from the rest of the church, and only taking up one corner of the square; however, by the advantage of this situation, the sound of the bell may be heard some miles from the city. The motto upon it, in the following distich, alludes to its ringing early in the morning for prayers, viz. at six o'clock in summer and seven in winter

“ Surge

" *Surge cito, propera, cunctos citat, excitat hora;*

" *Cur dormis? Vigila, me resonante leva.* Cast in 1592."

" Rise quickly, haste, 'tis time to stir for all;

" Why sleepest thou? Awake when I do call."

In the year 1666, by order of the Duke of Buckingham, a turret of wood was erected on this steeple, covered with lead and glazed. This was to serve as a beacon to alarm the country in case the Dutch or French, with both whom this country was then at war, should attempt to land on our coasts.

In 1753 the two chapels next the clock were fitted up for early prayers, after a disuse of near half a century. In that nearest the clock, the dean and chapter's court is also held.

THE CHOIR,

OR that part of the church which is dedicated to divine service, is separated from the rest of the building by a thick partition-wall; the front of which is adorned with various mouldings of curious workmanship in stone; among the rest is a row of the effigies of our kings from the conquest to Henry VI. whose statue was taken down by the orders of the archbishop then in being, in compliment to his enemy and successor Edward IV. The cell remained empty till the reign of James I. at whose first coming to York, the dean and chapter filled it with his figure. It is observable that his name is put underneath, "*Jacobus Primus, Rex Ang.*" we suppose in distinction to the Sixth of Scotland, as it was otherwise improper to style him First of England.

In the midst of this screen is placed the door into the choir, which, together with the passage, is wrought with curious mouldings and carvings. On the centre of the roof is a very neat piece of imagery of the Virgin, with

her arms across her breast, and adored by three little angels. The door itself was formerly wood-work, but of late years a handsome iron one was given, painted and gilded, by Mrs. Mary Wadesford. The two side aisles have also each of them a handsome door of iron-work, placed there at the sole charge of the late Dean Finch.

The organ is now placed over the choir-door, where it anciently stood: By order of Charles I. it was removed and placed opposite the archbishop's throne; his majesty giving for reason, that it spoiled the best prospect in the world, of the fine east window from the body of the church; it was brought back in the year 1768, Archbishop Lamplugh and the Earl of Stafford contributing to the charge of it. The organ has lately been much improved; and in the year 1754, the fronts of the stalls at the west end of the choir were raised and decorated in a taste conformable to the rest of the building.

The choir is still adorned with its ancient wood-work, carved and set up with clusters of knotted pinnacles of different heights, in which are a great number of small cells, which have had images of wood in them for greater decoration. Under these are the stalls for the canons, &c. beginning with the dean's stall on the right hand, and the precentor's on the left, each being assigned to a particular dignitary by a written label over it.

The eagle of brass, from which the lessons are read, bears this inscription:

THO. CRACROFT, S. T. P.
 AQUILAM HANC, EX ÆRE CONFLATUM
 IN USUM ET ORNATUM
 CATHEDRALIS TEMPLI EBOR.
 DIVO PETRO SACRI
 CANTULIT
 M.DC.LXXXVI.

The ascent from the body of the church, through the choir to the altar, is by a gradation of fifteen steps. The altar received a considerable improvement, as to its situation, in the year 1726, by taking away a large wooden screen, which almost obstructed the view of the east window. This screen was handsomely painted and gilt, and had a door at each end, which opened into a place behind the altar, where anciently the archbishops used to robe themselves at the time of their inthronizations, and thence proceeded to the high altar, where they were invested with the pall. On the top of this curious screen was a gallery for music, as is usual in Popish churches for the celebration of high mass. At the taking away of this, the altar was taken back one arch, to a stone screen behind it, which now not only shews a beauty itself, that was hid before, but also opens a prospect of one of the noblest lights in the world. In the year 1760, the present dean, caused the tapestry to be taken from the altar-screen, which is a magnificent piece of Gothic architecture, 49 feet in length and 28 feet in height. It consists of eight Gothic arches, filled up with beautiful tracery in the manner of windows, with piers and pinnacles between, which support a cornice, and upon that are battlements enriched with tracery and shields. All the openings are now glazed with plate-glass to the springing of the arches, with bars of gilded copper. By the curious this is esteemed one of the greatest beauties of the church.

In winter, from All Saints to Candlemas, the choir is illuminated, at evening-service, by several large branches, besides a small wax candle fixed at every other stall.

There is nothing more to be described in the choir but what is common to other cathedrals; and we shall be less particular in our description of the other parts of the

church; as a view of the building will give the reader a much better idea of it than words can pretend to. From the great west entrance we count seven pillars on a side to the lanthorn, which form eight arches: the two first serve as a basis to the highest, lightest, and most extensive arch in the world, which supports great part of the weight of two steeples. Over the other arches are placed the arms of the principal benefactors to the fabric, one on each side. On the top of these arches runs an open gallery on both sides the nave, and exactly over the joining of each formerly stood an image, in stone, of the tutelar saints or patrons of the different nations in Europe, which are all taken down, except St. George, who was left on account of an idle story relating to him, opposite a dragon's head. Over these are the windows of the middle aisle, which are adorned with imagery and divers coats of arms.

The roof of the nave is wood, the ribs or groins of which compose a most curious tracery, adorned with large carved knots, which have been gilded, and are in the nature of key-stones to support the work. Each of these knots represents some part of sacred history, or beautiful Gothic foliage*. The rest of the wood-work has been formerly painted a sky colour, but the late dean caused it to be all washed over white; and at this time (1796) the present dean has given directions for the ceiling of the great aisle, from the east to the west window, and of the south and north cross aisles, together with that of the lofty lanthorn steeple, to be taken away, and to be replaced with one resembling stone. This laborious work is nearly completed; and the internal part of the cathedral having undergone a thorough repair, gives the effect of this ancient and magnificent structure in its perfect state.

* For a more particular account of the internal beauties of this edifice, we refer our readers to the "Description of Gothic Ornaments," now publishing by the ingenious Mr. Halspenny, of York.

In the great window at the west end of the church are depicted in full proportion the first eight archbishops and eight saints of the church. The side-aisles are arched with stone, the spondils, as the workmen call them, being stone plastered over. The knots at the angles have been curiously carved and painted. Over each of the entrances into these aisles are representations of hunting and killing of wild beasts, in a sort of *basso-relievo*.

The south end is enlightened by six windows; that at the top is the most remarkable. It is a fine piece of masonry in form of a marigold; from whence it is called the Marigold Window, its coloured glass representing the image of that flower. This window has, for some time past, been half obscured by the projection of the roof; but it is intended to raise the ceiling at that end of the church, so as to present to the eye a perfect view of the whole circle of this beautiful light.

What may justly be called the wonder of the world, both for masonry and glazing, is the noble east window. It is very near the height and breadth of the middle choir. The upper part is a piece of admirable tracery, below which are 117 partitions, representing so much of holy writ, that it almost takes in the whole history of the Bible. This window was begun to be glazed, at the expence of the dean and chapter, in 1405, who contracted with John Thornton, of Coventry, glazier, to execute it. He was to receive for his own work, 4s. a week, and to finish the whole in less than three years.

The north end is beautified with five noble lights which constitute one large window, and reach almost from top to bottom of this end. This window has been called the Jewish window, but for what reason we know not: There is also a tradition that five maiden sisters were at the expence of these lights; the painted glass in them representing
ing

ing a kind of embroidery or needle-work, might perhaps give occasion for this story. These windows are of a very uncommon make, and are each about fifty feet high and five broad. In 1715 a small border of clear glass was run round their edge, which adds much to their beauty.

The great tower, or lanthorn-steeple, is founded on four great pillars, each composed of clusters of round columns gradually less as they conjoin the body of it. Over the four great arches these pillars make, are placed eight coats of arms, two and two of a side. On the west the arms of England, the *fleurs de lis* distinguished, with the arms of Edward the Confessor. On the east, the ancient bearing of York and St. Wilfrid. On the north, the arms assigned to the two Saxon kings Edwin and Edmund the Martyr. And on the south, the peculiar arms of the church, and those of Walter Skirlaw, the peculiar benefactor to this part of the building. The arms of England shew that this steeple was not finished till the reign of Henry V. or VI. who were the first who altered the old French bearing. Over these arms are several flowers, cherubims, and cloistered cells for images. The windows are eight in number, two on a side; and the roof is adorned with tracery, arch-wife.

There are a great number of elegant monuments in the cathedral, but the limits of this publication will not allow us to enter into a description of them, we shall only observe, that a very beautiful one has been erected, within a few years, to the memory of the late Sir George Savile, Bart.—the workmanship of that able artist Mr. John Fisher, of York.

THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS

NEXT claim the attention of the traveller. For the purchasing the ground, and erecting this magnificent

structure, 5000*l.* and upward were raised by subscription, in shares of 25*l.* and 50*l.* each, by the nobility and gentry of the city and county, and several other parts of the kingdom. They were the design of Richard the late Earl of Burlington.

At the front is a portico, depending upon columns of stone. There is a door and stair-case on each side of this entrance; both lead to the top of the leads, or down into the cellars, which are neatly arched, and have fire-places. In the cellar on the north side may be seen a part of the foundation-stone, which bears the following inscription:

IMP. GEORGIO AUG. II.

RICHARDUS
COMES de *BURLINGTON*,
Hujus Urbis Præses,
Sæculi MÆCENAS,
Has Ædes
Erexit:

Quò Publici exhibeantur Ludi
Quò procures undique confluant,
Quò artes efflorescant liberalis,
Quò (dilatante negotio) Gloria Pristina
Novo EBORACI Splendore
Obumbretur.

Ab hoc Die Natali
CAROLINÆ
Reginæ Serenissimæ Nostræ
Mar. 1 A... D..... MDCCXXX.
Stabit
Brigantùm *EPOCHA*.

The grand room is an antique Egyptian hall from Palladio, 112 feet in length, the breadth 40, and 40 the height.
This

This room consists of two orders, viz. the lower part, with 44 columns and capitals, and an elegant cornice, complete the Corinthian order. The upper part is after the Composite, richly beautified with festoons, imitating oak leaves and acorns, likewise a beautiful cornice, curiously enriched with carved work. From the top descend 13 lustres of crown glass, each carrying 18 candles; but more particularly in the centre is a lustre, most curiously carved, being the gift of the Earl of Burlington. The entrance is at the east end.

Upon the right hand is the common assembly-room, in length 66 feet, in breadth 22 feet, and 22 in height. In the ceiling is curious fret-work, the design of the Earl of Burlington.

At the end of the last mentioned room, is an entrance into another, built in the form of a cube, designed as a tea-room for the ladies. The length, breadth, and height of this room is 21 feet.

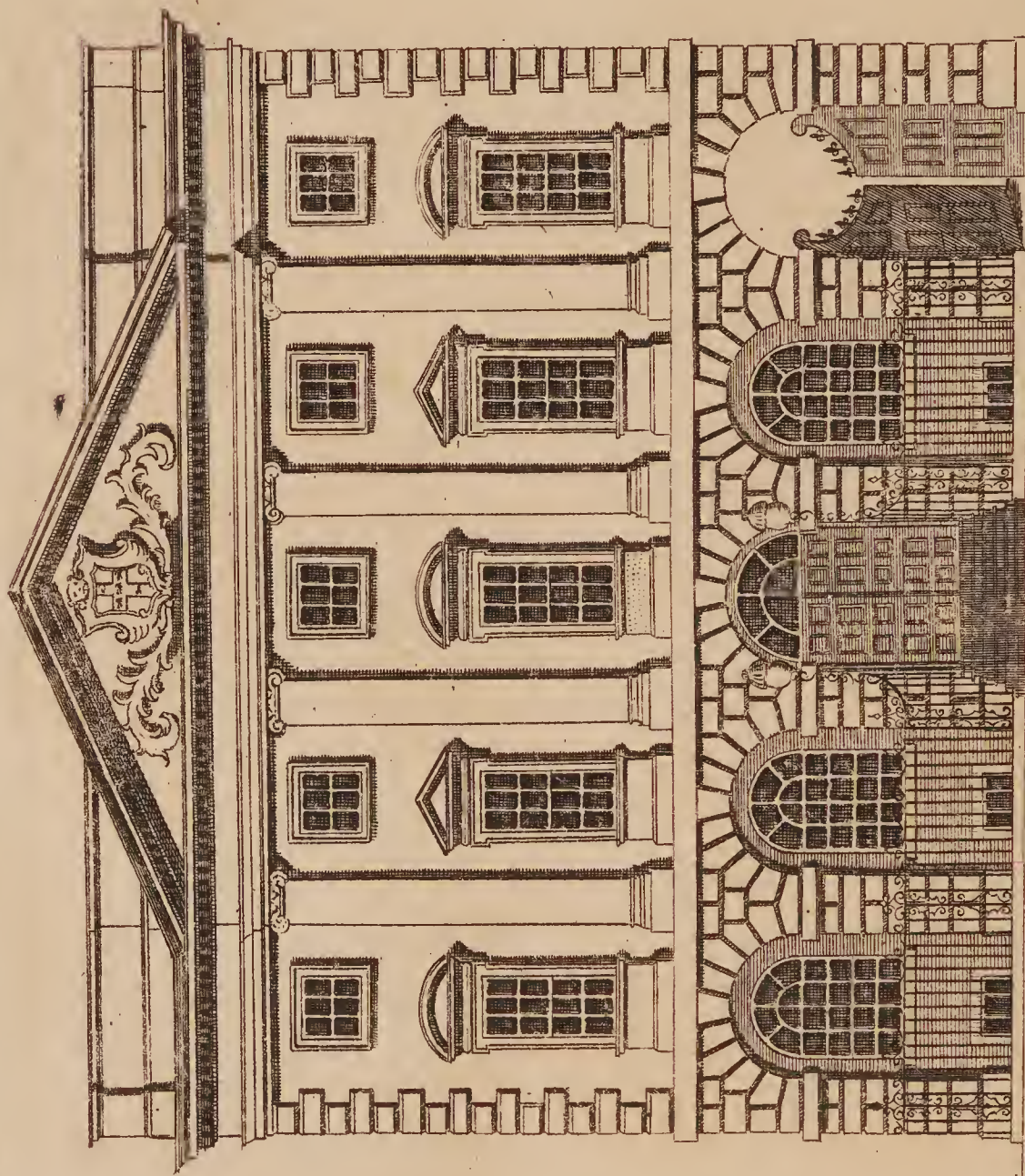
At the other end, eastward, near the grand entrance, is a circular room, 21 feet in diameter, with a cupola, to the top of which is 45 feet. This is designed for the gentlemen's public gaming-room.

Upon the left hand is a room 43 feet long, 15 feet broad, and 15 feet high, designed for the grand tea-room; beyond which are closets, drawing-rooms, &c. and near it a pleasant spring of water.

The vestibule, or grand entrance, is (as a room) 32 feet long, 21 broad, and 21 high. To the right and left are preparative rooms, each 22 feet long and 18 broad.

THE THEATRE.

At the upper end of Blakestreet stands the theatre, erected in 1770 by Mr. Baker, and which his successor,
Tate



A FRONT VIEW of the MANSION-HOUSE at YORK.

Tate Wilkinfon, Esq. the present manager, has procured to be licensed by his Majesty. It is an elegant and spacious building, and has every requisite both as to ornament and convenience. The scenery and dresses are equally superb with any in the kingdom: And, with respect to performers, it may with propriety be observed, that the majority of those, whose theatrical talents claim the patronage of a London audience, have trod this stage, and, in a great measure, matured their abilities here.

THE MANSION-HOUSE

IS an elegant building, at the north end of Coneystreet, erected in 1725 for the residence of the lord-mayor and his family, and has suitable furniture belonging to it. The great room, in which the lord mayor entertains the corporation, is 49 feet 6 inches in length, and 27 feet 9 inches in breadth: It is adorned with several full-length portraits by the first masters, among which we find the following:—The Marquis of Rockingham, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; Lord Bingley, who served the office of lord mayor in 1707; William III.; George II. and several others. Over the fire-places are placed the royal arms and those of the city, richly carved and ornamented.

THE GUILD, OR COMMON HALL

STANDS behind the Mansion-house: It is a noble structure; being 96 feet by 43, and supported by two rows of oak pillars, very massive and lofty, though each is cut out of a single tree: It is supposed that this hall is one of the finest Gothic rooms in the kingdom.

In this hall are held the courts of justice. Adjoining are rooms for the grand and petit juries to consult in;
in

in one of these, being neatly wainscotted, the lord-mayor daily sits to redress grievances, and is called the Inner Room. In this room is placed the musquetry of the city, proper for equipping four companies of men, consisting of 70 each.

The court of the lord president of the north was formerly held in this hall. The window over the lord-mayor's court is adorned with the city's arms, sword, mace, and cap of maintenance, and the emblems of Justice and Mercy, in fine painted glass, the work of Mr. Edmund Gyles, late of this city. In the Inner Room is a very beautiful painting on glass, of Justice in a triumphal car, done and presented to the corporation by that eminent artist, the late Mr. William Peckitt, of York.

THE CIRCULATING LIBRARY

STANDS about the middle of Stonegate; it consists of a large selection of books, in modern literature, which are lent out to read on moderate terms.

HOUSE-BRIDGE,

WHICH, as Mr. Camden remarks, is a noble one indeed: It consists of five arches; the middlemost arch is 81 feet, or 27 yards wide from the first spring of the arch, and 17 high, and was esteemed, formerly, one of the largest in Europe. The reason this arch was carried on to this extraordinary dimension, was to prevent the like accident from happening which overturned the old bridge in 1564; when, by a sharp frost, great snow, and a sudden thaw, the water rose to a vast height, and the prodigious weight of the ice and flood drove down two arches of the bridge, by which twelve houses were destroyed, and many persons drowned. The bridge continued unrepaired some time,
till

till a proper sum could be levied, when it was rebuilt in the manner it now stands.—This is the history of the new bridge, but of what antiquity the old one was we cannot learn.

In 1154 William, archbishop of York, made his first entry into the city, when the bridge (then built entirely of timber) being so crowded with the multitudes who came to meet him, it gave way, and a great many fell into the river; but, *by the prayers of the archbishop, not one of the company perished!* Stone bridges soon after coming into use, this seems take its date from about 1235; for we find that Walter Grey, then archbishop, granted a brief for the rebuilding of Ousebridge, most probably of stone, by charitable contributions.

On the bridge stands the great council-chamber of the city, near which the records were kept, till of late years they were removed to the guildhall. The exchequer and sheriffs' courts were continued here till the year 1778, when the latter was also removed to the guildhall. Beneath is the prison for felons belonging to the city, commonly called the Kidcote: on the opposite side of the street is the gaol for debtors, built at the expence of the city and ainstry in 1724. The old prison on this side was erected in 1575, at which time another arch was added to the bridge by way of support to it; but being become exceedingly ruinous, it was taken down and rebuilt.

At the foot of the bridge, on the east side of the river, is a convenient quay or wharf, commonly called the King's Staith, strongly walled and paved, for lading and unlading goods and merchandise, which had gone greatly to decay, but in the year 1774 it was new-paved and repaired.

THE

THE CASTLE

IS situated at the confluence of the rivers Ouse and Foss. The Foss formerly was drawn in a deep mote quite round it, and made it inaccessible except by two draw-bridges; the largest of which led to the ancient great gate from the county on the south; the other from the city on the north. About the year 1734, the latter was rebuilt in a handsome manner, and is at present the only entrance into the castle, except a small postern near the mills. The passage to the castle from the end of Castlegate being very narrow and inconvenient; was widened by subscription in 1765, and the foundation of the bridge (which stood where the city's arms are now placed) was then dug up.

History informs us that there was a castle in York long before the Conqueror's time, which is supposed to have been in the place called Old Baile. This, therefore, we believe was built, but probably on a Roman foundation, by William I. and made strong in order to keep the citizens and Northumbrians in awe. It was the place of residence for the high-sheriffs of the county, for some ages after.

The ancient towers of the castle, (which, after it was dismantled of a garrison, became a county-prison for felons, debtors, &c.) being by age rendered exceedingly ruinous, and a miserable gaol, were wholly taken down, and the present most magnificent structure erected in 1701. In the left wing is a handsome chapel, neatly and beautifully adorned with suitable furniture. The whole pile was carried on by a tax of threepence *per* pound on all lands, &c. within the county, pursuant to an act of parliament obtained for that purpose.

A View of YORK CASTLE and the VIEW COURT.



In the spacious area is a noble prison for debtors, which does honour to the county. It is on a floor (ascended to by a fine flight of stone steps) on which are eleven rooms, full sixteen feet square, and near twelve high. Above these is the same number of rooms; one or two of them for common-side debtors. On the ground-floor are the gaolers' apartments, &c.

The felons' court-yard is down five steps between the two wings; in it is a spacious day-room for men. The women-felons are kept quite separate; they have a day and two night-rooms. The condemned-room for the women is in another part of the prison.

The Basilica, or new county-hall, built at the expence of the county, was opened at the summer-assizes in 1777. It is a superb building of the Ionic order, 150 feet in length, and 45 feet in breadth, situate on the west side of the area. In the south end is the court for the trial of prisoners, and in the north the court of *nisi prius*. Each of these is 30 feet in diameter, crowned with a dome 40 feet in height, which is supported by 12 Corinthian columns; adjoining are proper rooms for the grand and petit juries, and other necessary apartments. The entrance into this building is by a loggio of six columns, 30 feet in height, over which are placed the king's arms, an elegant statue of Justice, and other emblematical figures.

In the year 1780, an additional building was erected under the direction of Mr. Carr, of York, in order to remedy many inconveniences which the humane Mr. Howard observed in the old gaol. This building consists of several spacious arched cells for the confinement of felons for petty and other offences, separate from the more notorious offenders; apartments for work-rooms, and for the confinement of women and debtors; distinct hospital-rooms for the men and women; and apartments for the

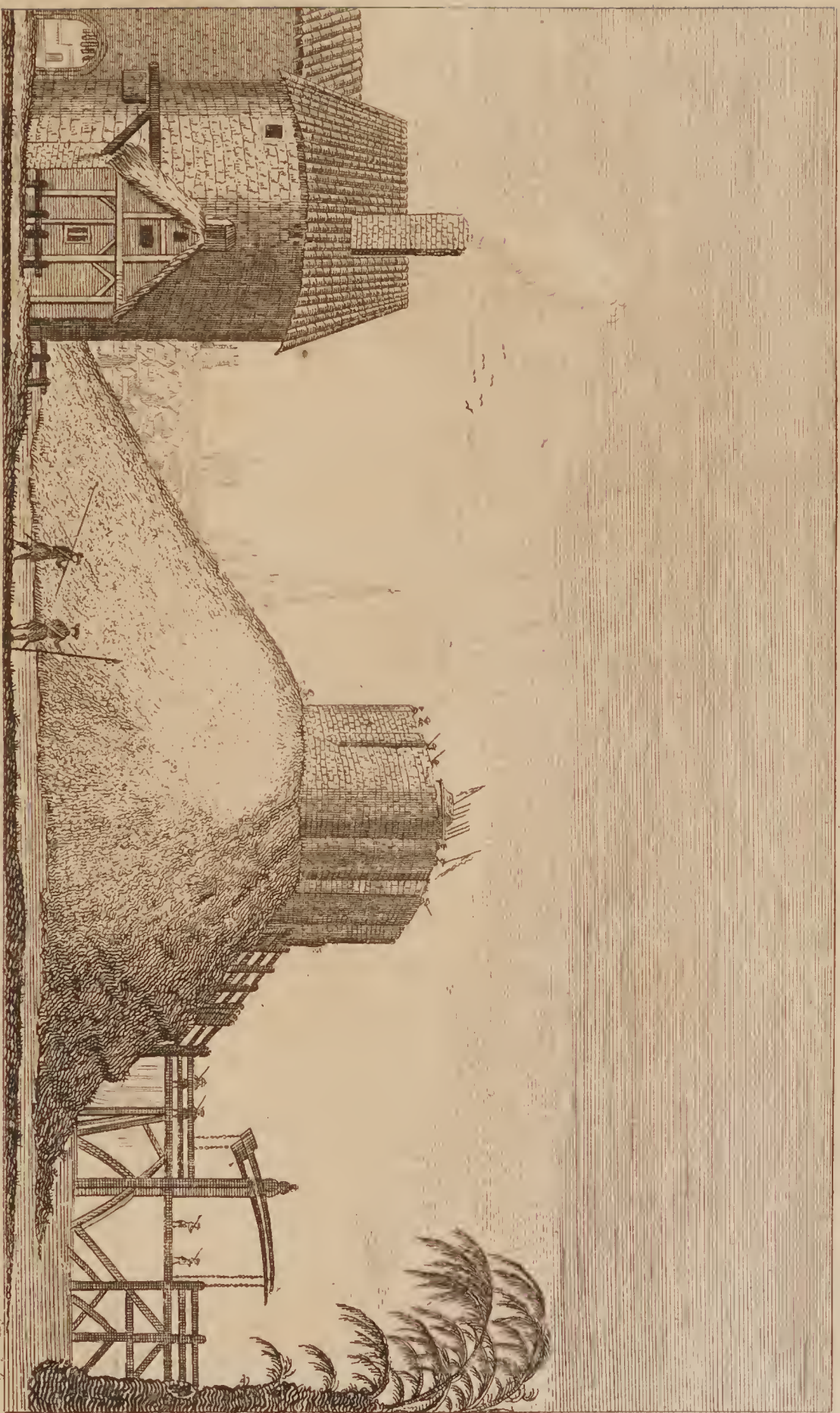
of assize, county records, &c. The fabric extends in length 105 feet; in the front is a handsome Ionic colonnade or loggio; similar to that in the front of the court of justice, which is very convenient for the prisoners to work or walk in.

The area of the castle is very considerable for a prison; the walls are about 1100 yards in circumference, and the prisoners having the liberty of walking in it, renders their confinement less irksome and more healthy. The place is well supplied with excellent water.

At the distance of 77 feet from the castle-gate, on the outside, (the extent of the city's liberties) are erected the arms of the city:—Here the sheriffs for the city stand to receive the judges of assize, and conduct them to the common-hall when they come the circuit.

CLIFFORD'S TOWER.

ADJOINING to the castle is a high mount, thrown up by prodigious labour, on which stands a tower of somewhat a round form, called Clifford's Tower. This place, if we may believe tradition, has borne that name ever since York was taken by the Conqueror, when one of the Cliffords was made governor of it. It lay in a ruinous condition till the civil wars begun in the time of Charles I. when it was repaired and fortified, and a considerable square building added to it on that side next the castle, on which, over the gate, are placed the royal arms and those of the Cliffords, in stone-work, viz. *cheque* and a *fess*, ensigned with an earl's coronet, supported by two wiverns, with this motto, "*Deformais.*" On the top was erected a platform, on which some pieces of cannon were mounted. After the surrender of the city to the parliament's generals, all the garrisons were dismantled, except this tower,
of



CITY OF LONDON, as it stood, fortified before it was blown up.

Jan 1684.

of which Sir Thomas Dickenfon, lord mayor, was made governor. It continued in the hands of his fucceffors, as governors, till the year 1683, when Sir John Reresby was appointed governor of it by Charles II. In 1684, on the festival of St. George, about ten at night, the magazine took fire, blew up, and the tower was made a fhell of, as it ftands at this day. Whether this was done accidentally or on purpofe is difputable; it was obferved that the officers and foldiers had removed all their beft things before; and it was a common toaft in the city to drink to the “*demolition of the minced pie*,” neither was there one man killed by the accident.

This mount exactly corresponds with one on the weft fide of the river in Old Baile, and by the extraordinary labour required in the raifing, it feems to have been effected by no lefs than a Roman power, though the Conqueror might build the prefent ftructure, the infide exhibiting a regularity very uncommon in a Gothic building. Within this tower is a deep well of excellent water, alfo a dungeon fo dark as not to admit the leaft ray of light.

OLD BAILE.

AT the fouth-eaft corner of the city, within the walls, is a place of great antiquity; fo old as to mock any fearch yet made for its original. It is called in the moft ancient deeds and histories, “*Vetus Ballium*,” or Old Baile, which, according to the etymology of the word, appears to come from the Norman *Baile*, a prifon or place of fecurity; or from *Baile*, an officer who has the jurifdiction over a prifon.

Leland, and after him Camden, are pofitive that this is the platform of a caftle. Indeed, whoever views it carefully at this day, muft be of the fame opinion, efpecially

when they are told that the ramparts, when dug into, are full of foundation-stones.

The area of this ruined antiquated castle used formerly to be open for sports and recreations, but is now inclosed and leased out by the corporation. The mount was planted with trees in 1726, and commands a good prospect of the city and surrounding country.

THE NEW WALK.

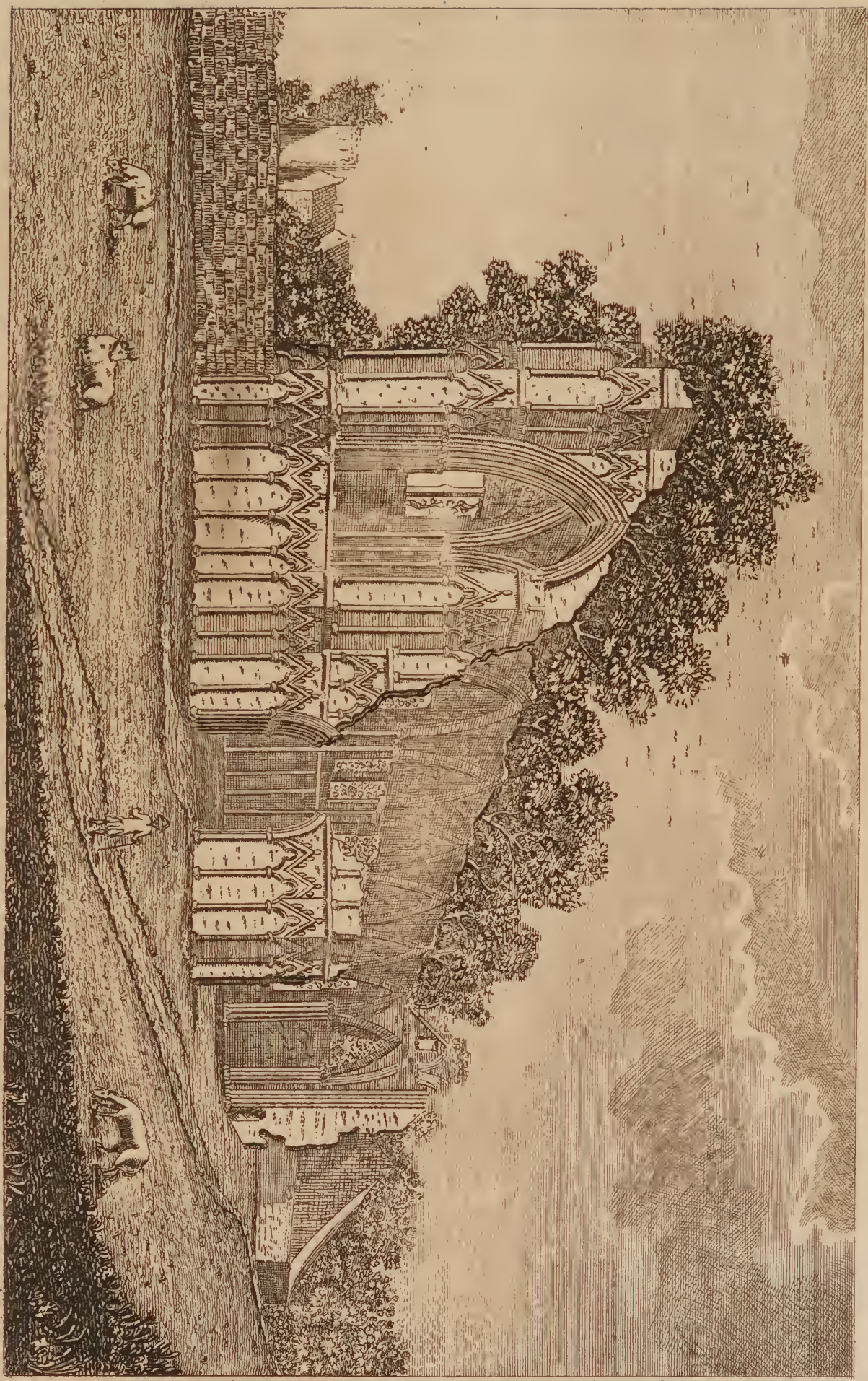
THIS walk is near a mile in length, running along the banks of the Ouse. It is a fine gravelled terrace, agreeably shaded with lofty trees. At convenient distances are placed chairs for the accommodation of the public. The utmost attention is paid to its order; and it is universally allowed to be equal to any public walk in the kingdom. About the centre stood a beautiful stone bridge over the Foss, which (since that river was made navigable) has been taken down, and the present wooden one erected in its place.

St. MARY'S ABBEY,

A MOST noble and magnificent monastery, anciently one of the glories of York, was situated under the walls on the north side of the city. It was built in 1089, and suffered in the general conflagration which burnt down the cathedral in 1137. It lay in ruins till 1270, when it was begun to be rebuilt by Simon de Warwick, then abbot, who laid the first stone. This was the building whose noble remains we see at this day.

There is no place about the city which can boast of a more agreeable site: It is on a rising ground, the aspect
south-

View of the Ruins of St. Mary's Abbey.



South-west, declining every way to the river Ouse, which runs by at the bottom. The ground on which it stands is almost square, and is inclosed on the north and east sides with stately walls, built with many orderly and large towers embattled; on the north with the river Ouse, and on the south with the rampart and walls of the city. The whole circumference, by an exact mensuration, is 1280 yards, or about three quarters of a mile; that is to say, from Bootham-Bar to St. Marygate tower 194 yards; from St. Marygate tower to the west tower, abutting upon the Ouse, 420 yards; from the west tower to the water-house tower, on the south, 246 yards; from the water-house tower, by the ramparts of the city to Bootham-Bar, 420 yards.

The abbey-church was 371 feet in length, and 60 in breadth.

In the abbey-wall were only two principal gates; the one on the east side, opening into Bootham, near the gate of the city; the other on the north side, which was the main entrance into the abbey, opens into St. Marygate, a little below the church of St. Olave.

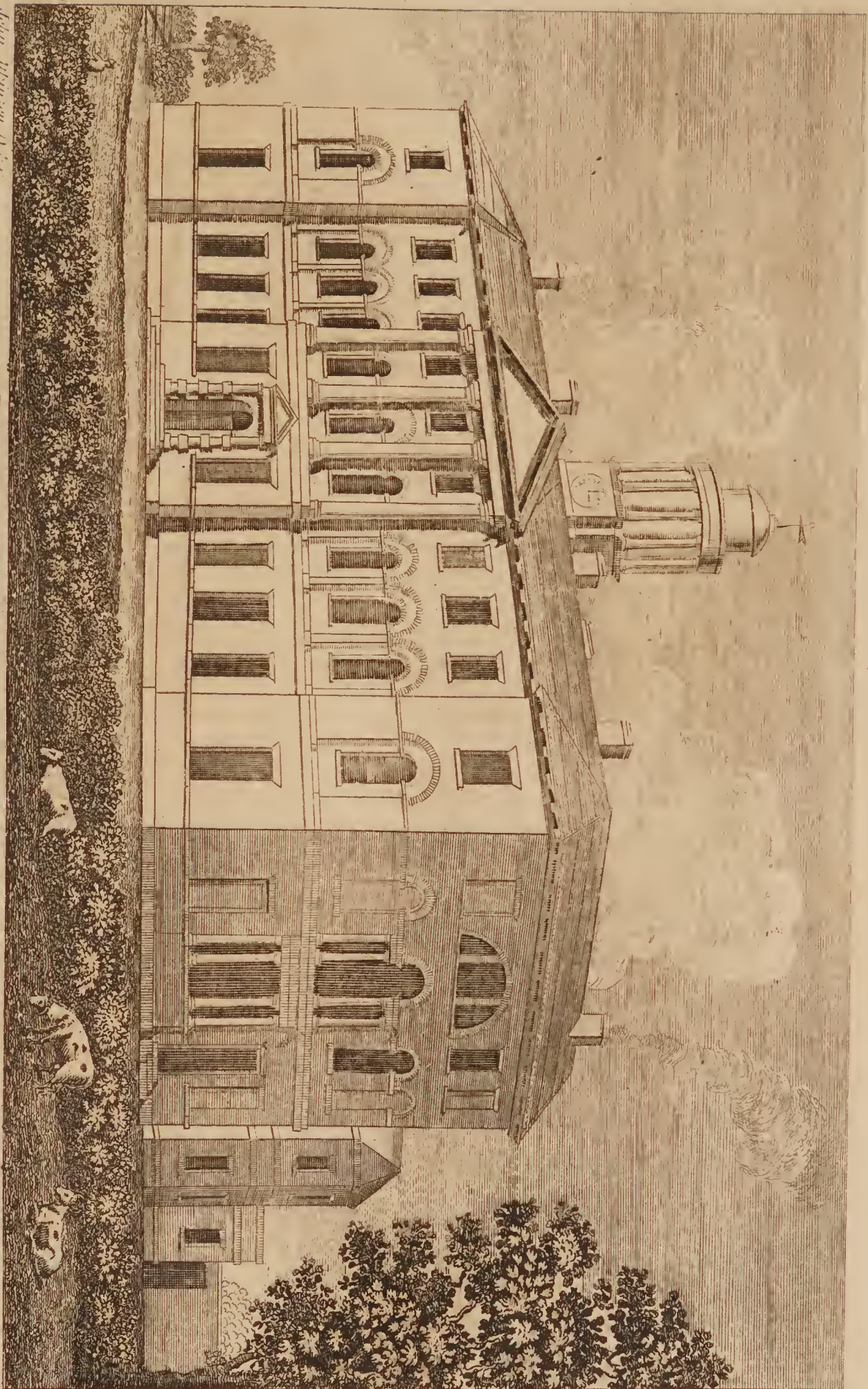
At the north-east corner of the walls is a tower called St. Mary's Tower, in which all the records, taken out of the religious houses at their dissolutions, on the north side of the Trent, were deposited under the care of the lord president. Mr. Dodsworth had but just finished his laborious transcripts of these valuable remains, when the tower was blown up in the siege of York in 1644, and most of the original records were destroyed.

THE LUNATIC ASYLUM

IS situated without Bootham-Bar, on the north-east side, and is a handsome structure; extending in length 132 feet, in depth 52, and in height consisting of three stories. Of these the lowest is a rustic, from which four engaged columns are carried up to the general entablature, and sustain a pediment in the centre of the front, which has a south-west aspect. The ends of the front are finished as pavilions, and have a projection equal to that of the engaged central columns already mentioned. Over the centre of the building rises an elegant cylindrical bell-tower, surrounded with engaged columns, and finished with a small cupola and vane. The internal plan is simple and convenient, consisting only of a corridore, extending from end to end of the building, and has on each side of it, on the two upper floors, rooms very commodiously and securely finished for the reception of lunatics; and on the lower floor, beside similar rooms, is a committee-room, and apartments for the physician and apothecary. Behind the whole, in a separate building, are the kitchen, wash-house, and other convenient offices; above which are apartments for 20 patients more.

The York Lunatic Asylum was established in the year 1777, by general subscription; and had for its general object the cure and relief of such insane persons as were in low and narrow circumstances. How well it has answered the intended purpose, is sufficiently known in the extensive county in which it stands. Being an establishment without a permanent fund for its support, the patients, or their friends, pay a weekly sum suitable to their abilities; by which means the indigent are relieved at the expence of the affluent.

In this Asylum the patients are treated with all the tenderness



John Thompson Del.

A VIEW OF YORK LUNATIC ASYLUM.

derness and indulgence that is compatible with a steady and effectual government, and the servants are enjoined never to use unnecessary severity. The strictest economy is observed in the management of the family; and the utmost attention is paid to decency and cleanliness.

At the first opening of the Asylum there was no distinction of patients; and all paid eight shillings *per* week for their board and medicines: But, after a few years, it was found that this sum was not well proportioned; as, under this regulation, those who were in easy circumstances paid too little; and those who were very poor, and had no parish relief, paid too much. It was therefore ordered, for the more extensive benefit of the public, that a few persons of better condition should be admitted, on paying a weekly sum, proportioned to their circumstances: At the same time it was ordered, that the overflowings of *their* weekly payments should be applied in aid of those persons who were in narrow circumstances, and paid for themselves. Under this charitable regulation the Asylum continued for the space of one year, and the success proved the wisdom of the measure: But it being represented by Dr. Hunter, the present physician, that he was likely to be materially injured by this regulation, however advantageous to the Asylum, as it obliged him to attend, *gratis*, those very persons who would otherwise have been his own private patients, it was ordered, “That the physician should be allowed to take reasonable fees from such affluent patients.” With this alteration the Charity has flourished for some years; and, unless disturbed, may continue to flourish to the advantage of many persons in low circumstances, as well as to the comfort and satisfaction of a few sufferers in easy circumstances,—who otherwise must have been driven into private madhouses, where their fortunes and health

would have been at the mercy of those who have little or no feeling for the miseries of others.

At this present time the Asylum contains 72 patients : These the Governors have formed into three divisions.

The *First Division* (in number 20, and never to exceed 25) consists of such patients as are of a better condition, and who pay a considerable weekly sum for their board and medicines ; the surplus of which (about one hundred pounds per ann.) is employed in lessening the payments of those who are in low circumstances, and have no parish relief.

The *Second Division* (in number 34) consists of those patients who pay eight shillings per week for their board and medicines : A sum which, from experience, is found equal to the expence incurred by patients in general. In this division the Governors have included the parish paupers ; judging it unreasonable that the opulent inhabitants of a parish should share with the necessitous objects of the third division any part of the savings arising from the enlarged payments of the few patients in easy circumstances.

The *Third Division* (in number 18) consists of patients in low circumstances, who pay for their own board, and have no assistance from their parishes. They stand thus : Eight at six shillings ; three at five shillings ; and seven at four shillings per week. These are all objects of pitiable distress. On this division of distressed individuals, the Governors, as already observed, bestow the overflowings of the first division, together with the interest of 750l. given by Lady Gower, Mrs. Bouchier, and Mrs. Bouverie, “ for the relief of the most necessitous objects, at the discretion of the Governors.” In this manner the indigent lunatic is furnished with part of his subsistence from the stores of a fellow-sufferer whom Providence has placed in more abundant circumstances. Without those aids the poor objects of this division could not subsist in the Asylum ; it being well known, that no part of the subscribed money has ever been employed in the *maintenance* of the patients. On the contrary, the patients themselves, by weekly payments, (according to the original plan of the charity) have hitherto defrayed all the expences of the household, together with the salary of the apothecary, and the wages of the servants ; amounting in the last year to the sum of 1400l.

With a view to render the distreffes of the third division, or lower class of patients, more supportable, the Governors, with becoming humanity, established in the year 1784 a fund, to which they gave the name of “Lady Gower’s Reduction Fund.”

The present estate of the Asylum is about 2000l. capital stock in the three per cents; the interest of which is employed in the repairs of the fabric, and in the purchase of furniture; which, in an establishment of this kind, is attended with a considerable annual expence. This fund, however, is daily increasing by donations and legacies. An institution, so charitably constructed, is justly entitled to the approbation of mankind; and the guardians of it have always had a peculiar pleasure in acknowledging that approbation, made still more valuable by the liberality of the humane and charitable, whose respectable names are recorded on the walls of the Committee-room.

The access to this charity is easy, the rules being simple in their form, and few in number; they are as follow:

RESOLVED, That this Charity shall be named the “YORK LUNATIC ASYLUM,” and be considered as a general establishment for the reception of all persons labouring under an unsound mind, whether curable or not.

ORDERED, That all the patients in the house, and such as may hereafter be received, shall be classed by the *visitors* according to their respective circumstances.

CLASS 1. Lady Gower’s fund, six shillings per week and under.

- 2. Eight shillings.
- 3. Ten shillings.
- 4. Twelve shillings.
- 5. Fourteen shillings.
- 6. Sixteen shillings.
- 7. Eighteen shillings.
- 8. Twenty shillings and upwards.

N. B. The above payments discharge lodging, board, coal, candle, tea, washing, medicines, and medical attendance.

ORDERED,

ORDERED, That a separate table be kept for such patients as are rated above eight shillings per week ; with the privilege of being admitted without certificates.

RESOLVED, That patients of the higher classes may be waited on by their own servants, paying six shillings per week for their board and washing.

RESOLVED, That women with child, labouring under an unsound mind, shall be received, upon security being given that the child shall not become burthenome to the parish in which the Asylum stands.

ORDERED, That in cases of sudden lunacy, patients will be received into the house without previous notice, if presented before sun-set : But, in all other cases, it is expected that notice be sent to the Apothecary at the Asylum a few days before the arrival of the patient, that every thing may be properly prepared for his or her reception.

RESOLVED, That Lunatics, coming recommended as parish poor, shall be placed in the second class, except upon extraordinary occasions ; it being the intention of this institution to give the greatest relief to such persons as are in low and narrow circumstances, and who are not supported by their respective parishes.

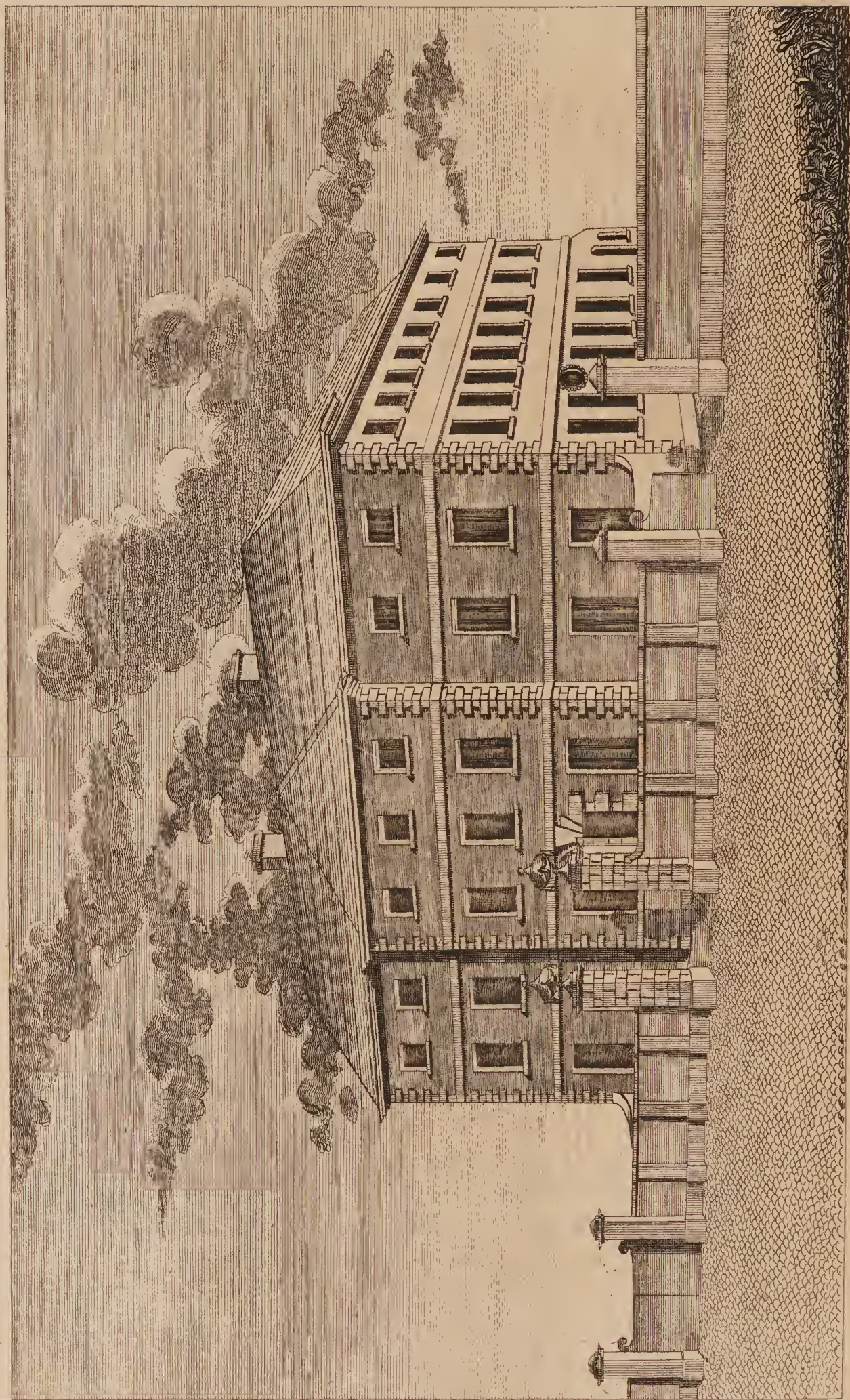
RESOLVED, That it would be *convenient* to the public, as well as *advantageous* to the Asylum, if patients in easy circumstances were admitted.

ORDERED, That patients of the above description (not to exceed 25) shall in future be admitted, on their paying a suitable pension to the Asylum ; but it is understood that the attending physician shall receive from the friends of such patients, the reasonable emoluments of his profession.

ORDERED, That the physician shall attend, *gratis*, the parish poor, and all patients whose weekly payments do not exceed eight shillings.

ORDERED, That the savings arising from the enlarged payments of the patients of better condition, shall be bestowed upon those patients who are in low circumstances, and pay for their own board ; but parishes shall not be entitled to any part of these savings.

RESOLVED, That a donation of twenty pounds, or upwards, (if given without conditions or restrictions) shall constitute a Governor,



Westcott County Hospital.

Governor, with the privilege of recommending as many patients as he may think proper.

ORDERED, That the private servants of patients admitted into the Asylum, shall bring with them certificates of their settlement.

STATE OF THE ASYLUM.

On the first day of January, 1777, the house was opened for the reception of patients, since which time, to the 8th day of August, 1795, 983 insane persons have been admitted.

Admitted since the beginning	—	—	983
Cured	—	—	484
Relieved	—	—	232
Incurable, and removed by desire of their friends	—	—	103
Died	—	—	81

Remain in the house, 40 men, and 43 women, among whom
 are 28 very poor persons at reduced prices, who enjoy the
 benefit of a considerable sum, annually arising from the en-
 larged payments of a few patients in easy circumstances. } 83

983

THE COUNTY HOSPITAL

Is situated out of Monk-Bar, on the north-east side of the city. Its first institution was in the year 1740, by a legacy of 500l. given by the will of Lady Elizabeth Hastings, and since raised and supported by the benefactions or annual contributions of well-disposed persons.

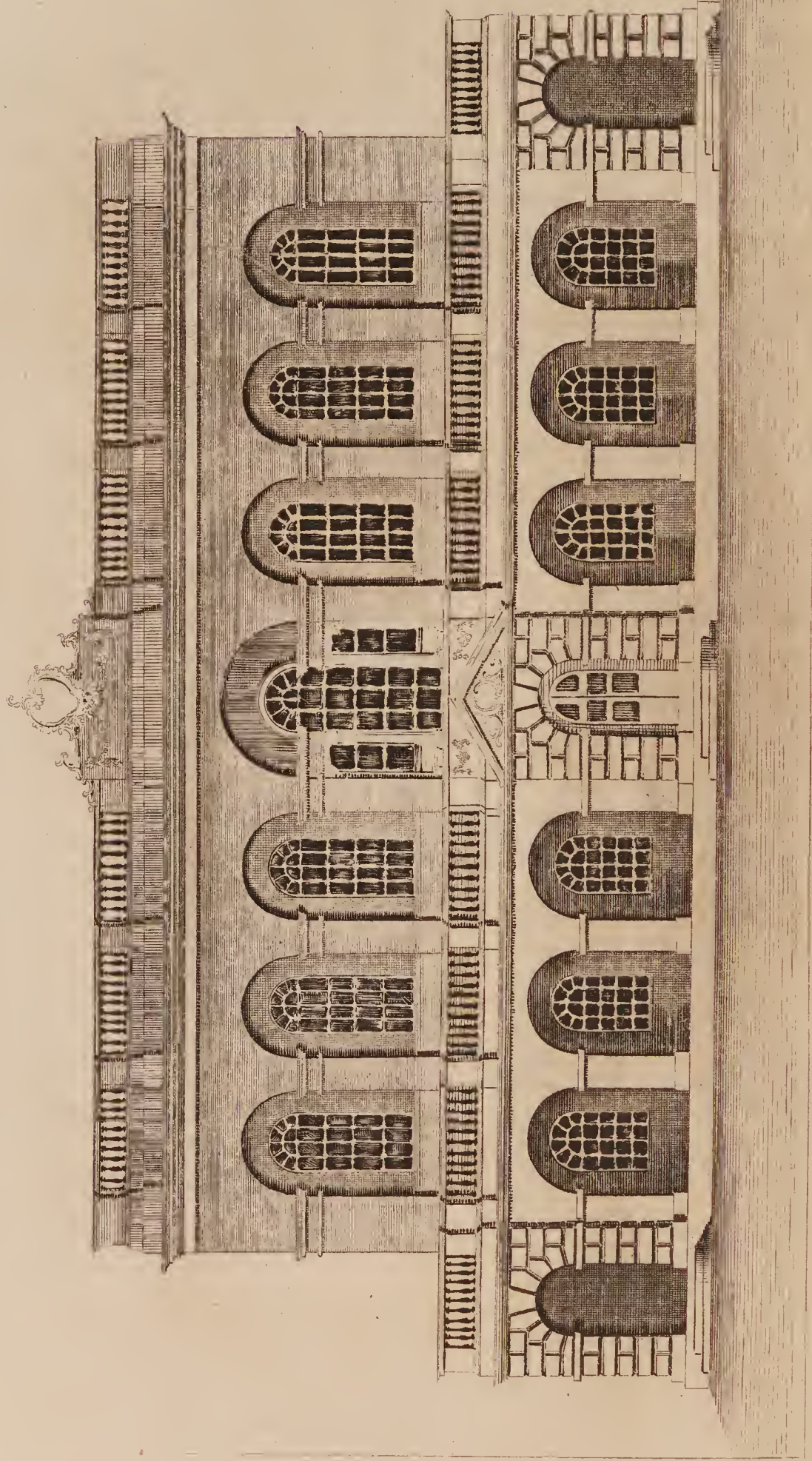
It is a spacious building, neatly, but not superfluously ornamented, and very well adapted to the humane purpose for which it was raised. It extends a front of 75 feet in length to the street, and measures 90 feet in depth, inclosing a court of 26 feet 4 inches by 35 feet. The whole consists of three floors; the first of which is appropriated to the offices necessary to the hospital; the second is divided into two large wards, one for male and
 and

the other for female patients, each containing seventeen beds, and to these are annexed bed-rooms for the respective nurses. The third floor consists of two wards, one for men, the other for women, each containing twelve beds, and accommodations as before mentioned for the nurses, together with a theatre, lighted from above, for the performance of surgical operations. Every ward is furnished with a necessary-house, from which effectual care is taken to convey all offensive smell; and indeed, in every respect, so much attention is paid to cleanliness, that from this single circumstance it cannot be doubted that many patients have derived essential benefit.

This excellent charity is entirely dependent upon the benevolence of the public for its maintenance, and the government of it is vested in such persons as contribute to its support. A donation of 20*l.* or an annual contribution of 2*l.* constitutes a Governor, who is entitled to vote in a court, by which all affairs relative to the house are regulated, and by whom trustees are chosen, whose concurrence, in a separate court, is necessary to give force to many resolutions of the governors.

Nothing can better demonstrate the infinite utility of this Hospital, than the following state of the patients, who have been admitted since its foundation in 1740.

Patients admitted from April 4, 1740, to May 1, 1795.				33259
Cured	—	—	—	24588
Relieved	—	—	—	5887
Incurable	—	—	—	1434
Discharged for irregularity, &c.			—	384
Died	—	—	—	851
Now under cure	—	—	—	115
				—33259



A VIEW of the GRAND-STAND upon the RACE-GROUND at YORK.

THE RACE COURSE

IS situated about a mile from York, on a large plain called Knavesmire: It is a dead flat, and in many places very moist, yet by building arches and draining, where it was proper, it is made as convenient for this diversion as is requisite. The form of the race course is that of a horse-shoe, the company in the middle and on the scaffolds never losing sight of the horses; for which reasons it has acquired the reputation of being one of the best horse-courses in England. The whole has of late been much improved by widening and levelling where necessary.

In the year 1753 the spirit of horse-racing had pervaded every part of this country, and the resort of the nobility and gentry to York during the races, was at that time so considerable, that a subscription was opened by them for erecting a Grand Stand on Knavesmire, for the purpose of conveniently seeing the horses run. A considerable sum of money being raised, a building proper for the purpose was accordingly designed and erected by Mr. Carr, the architect, and was completed in the year 1754. On the ground floor are convenient offices and rooms for the entertainment of company; above, on the second floor, is a large room for the company to meet in, which is surrounded by a projecting miranda (with a balustrade before it) upwards of 200 feet in length, supported by a rusticated arcade 15 feet high above ground, from which miranda the company can command a prospect of the whole race-ground. The goal is a stone rotunda, erected near the stand, for the convenience of the triers, or persons appointed to observe and decide in what order the horses pass it.

ARCH-

ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE AT BISHOP-THORPE.

AT a pleasant village, nearly three miles from York, is a magnificent palace, built for the residence of the archbishop of this province.

It was built by Walter Gray, archbishop, but the house has undergone several reparations by succeeding archbishops. The gardens, contiguous to the palace, were almost wholly laid out at the charge of archbishop Sharp; and the house received great alterations in the hall, dining-rooms, &c. at the expence of the late archbishop Dawes. Archbishop Gilbert altered the windows in the large dining-room, laid the floor in the hall with Roche Abbey stone and black marble; repaired the stair-case in the hall, and ornamented the walls and ceiling, likewise the old drawing-room above stairs,—now the library of the present archbishop, Dr. Markham. Archbishop Drummond (Dr. Markham's predecessor) made the most considerable improvements: he built the stables, coach-houses, brew-house, &c. in the year 1763, and in the autumn of the same year were laid the foundations of the gateway and porter's lodge, which were finished in September, 1765. In 1766, the addition to the palace was begun, consisting of a hall for servants, butler's pantry, large drawing-room, vestibule, and audience-room; the drawing-room and vestibule are finished with great taste in the Gothic or rather Norman architecture. These rooms, with the elegant front and portico, were finished in the year 1769. In the drawing-room is a well-finished chimney-piece of Statuary and Sienna marble; and in 1769 was fixed, in the best dining-room, the grand Doric columned chimney-piece of veined marble, with the ornaments above it. Many alterations were made

made about this period in the lodging-rooms: 'The kitchen-garden, pleasure-ground, &c. were completed in the year 1767. Dr. Drummond also beautified the chapel, by adding windows of stained glass, the workmanship of the late Mr. Peckitt, of York.

HAVING fulfilled our design in describing such objects as are more particularly deserving the attention of the curious, it may not be improper to add, that this city is in no degree inferior to any in the kingdom, in respect to such conveniences as are necessary in every town.

The market-places, of which there are two, (the Pavement and Thursday-market) are spacious, and in every respect convenient. In the Pavement is kept a daily market for vegetables, &c. The cross is a square with a dome, ascended into by winding stairs, and supported by twelve pillars of the Ionic order. It was erected in 1672, by Marmaduke Rawdon, a merchant in London, but a native of York. The other is used on the Saturday as a shambles, to which the country butchers have free resort. On the west side of the market-place stands a cross, built in 1705, for the shelter of the market-people in bad weather; it is a plain but elegant structure.

In charitable institutions the city of York is in no part excelled; a particular attention being paid to the infant poor. There are two charity-schools, in one of which 75 boys, in the other 40 girls, are educated, clothed, and afterwards apprenticed: A considerable number of Sunday-schools have been likewise set on foot on the most laudable principles, and are striking characteristics of the disposition of the inhabitants,

York

York has not only to boast of the above excellent charities, but likewise a Dispensary, for administering relief to the diseased poor. In the month of March, 1788, the Gentlemen of the Faculty, resident in York, came to the resolution of establishing a public Dispensary in that city. They the more willingly engaged in the undertaking, from a full conviction that they should receive the support of many charitable and well-disposed persons in the prosecution of so laudable a design. Their views and expectations have not been frustrated; and it is with peculiar satisfaction that we can say, that 6560 diseased poor have been relieved by their bounty, as will appear from the following general report from March 28, 1788, to March 28, 1795; of which number a great many have been visited at their own houses, and supplied with food as well as medicine.

PATIENTS admitted	—	—	6560
discharged cured	—	—	4825
relieved and time expired	—	—	1333
incurable	—	—	12
for irregularity	—	—	48
as an improper object	—	—	1
died	—	—	236
remaining under cure	—	—	105
			—6560

This charity is chiefly supported by the annual contributions of the wealthy part of the inhabitants;—there being as yet only 250*l.* subscribed as a fund for its support.

The city is in circumference two miles and almost three quarters: It is surrounded with walls, which are made commodious for walking on, having an agreeable prospect of both town and country.

Four principal gates, or bars, and five posterns compose

pose the entrances into the city, viz. Micklegate-Bar to the south-west, which is a truly noble entrance, and still bears the marks of that antiquity which few in the kingdom can boast of; it is adorned with lofty turrets, and handsomely embattled; over the arch hangs a large shield with the arms of France painted and gilt; on each side are two lesser with the arms of the city on them. The age of the present structure cannot be ascertained; but it is observable that the *fleurs de lis* in the royal arms are not confined to the number three, which puts it out of doubt that they were placed there before the time of Henry V. as he was the first who gave that peculiar number to the bearing:—Bootham-Bar to the north-west; the structure of this port is very ancient, being almost wholly built of grit, but wants that symmetry so very conspicuous in the arch in Micklegate-Bar:—Monk-Bar to the north-east, and Walmgate-Bar to the south-east, are built in the same manner as the others; towards the foundations are some large blocks of grit, but the arches, &c. are modern. The posterns are North-street, Skeldergate, Castlegate, Fishergate, and Layerthorpe; which, with the bars, encircle the whole city.

The following is a list of the churches in York:—

All Saints, *Pavement*,
 All Saints, *Northstreet*,
 St. Crux,
 St. Cuthbert's,
 St. Dennis,
 St. Helen's,
 St. John's,
 St. Laurence,
 St. Martin's, *Coneystreet*,
 St. Michael-le-Belfrey,
 St. Mary's, *Castlegate*,
 St. Michael's, *Spurriergate*,

St. Martin's, *Micklegate*,
 Bishophill the Elder,
 Bishophill the Younger,
 St. Maurice,
 St. Margaret's,
 St. Olave's,
 St. Saviour's,
 St. Sampson's,
 Christ Church,
 Trinity, *Goodramgate*,
 Trinity, *Micklegate*.

The only churches which can boast any thing worth the attention of the curious, are St. Mary's, Castlegate, remarkable for the beauty of its spire; St. Margaret's, Walmgate, which has a most extraordinary porch or entrance, curiously adorned with all the signs of the Zodiac and other hieroglyphics; and lastly, the church of All Saints, Pavement, the north side of which was built almost wholly out of the ruins of Eboracum; the tower or steeple is an exquisite piece of Gothic architecture; the top is finished lantern-wise. Tradition assures us, that anciently a large lamp hung in it, which was lighted in the night-time, as a mark for travellers to aim at in their passage over the immense forest of Galtres to York. The pulley is still shewn in the steeple, on which it is said to have hung.

Population, &c.—"In order to find the number of inhabitants in any place, where, either from its bulk, or other reasons, a numerical survey cannot be obtained, two methods may be made use of. The first is, multiplying the number of houses by the medium of inhabitants in each. The second is, one recommended by Mons. Mohean, in a work, entitled "*Recherches et Considerations sur la Population de la France.*" He found, by very laborious calculations, that the number of inhabitants may be known by the births, the latter being to the former as nearly 1 to 27.

"By an account given in to the House of Commons in March, 1781, the number of houses in York subject to the new house-tax was 2285: If to these be added such as are too small to come under the tax, which may probably amount to one-third more, the total of the houses in York will be about 3000. This number multiplied by $4\frac{1}{4}$, which is nearly the medium of people in a house, gives 12750 for the number of inhabitants.

"By the second rule we have 12,798 for the number of inhabitants, which is the result of 474, the average of
annual

annual births, multiplied by 27. The remarkable coincidence of these methods of calculation makes it very probable, that if we estimate the number of inhabitants at 12,800, we shall not be very far from the truth*.”

Improvements.—The city of York has been much improved within a few years past. The streets have been widened in many places, by taking down a number of old houses built in such a manner as almost to meet in the upper stories, by which the sun and air were nearly excluded in the streets and lower apartments. They have also been new paved, additional drains made, and by the present method of conducting the rain from the houses, are become much drier and cleaner than before. The corporation intend to apply for an act of parliament to empower them to widen the passage over Ouse-bridge, it being rendered difficult by the great concourse of people continually passing. The erection of the locks, about four miles below the city, has been a great advantage to it; for, before this, the river was frequently very low, leaving quantities of sludge and dirt in the very heart of the city, also the filth and mud of the common sewers, which it was unable to wash away. The lock has effectually prevented this for the future, by the river being kept always high, broad, and spacious. In 1793, a subscription of 25000*l.* was raised for rendering the Foss navigable: This river had, for many years, been a nuisance to the city; but by this undertaking, it is not only made serviceable to the country through which it runs, but contributes to the salubrity as well as beauty of York.

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* So says the late Dr. White, in his “ Estimate of the Population of York;” yet we should doubt the propriety of calculating by either of these methods, when we are certain that, in inclement seasons for some years past, upwards of 6000 individuals have received relief from public subscriptions, &c. for which, much to its honour, this city always stands most forward.

In the above improvements, in others that are intended to take place, in the care and expence necessary to keep in proper repair the public walks about the city, the magistrates have exerted much spirit, and have added to the health as well as consulted the convenience of the inhabitants.

Government of the City.—York is governed by a lord-mayor, a recorder, two city counsel, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, twenty-four assistants, seventy-two common-councilmen, and six chamberlains.

The *Lord-Mayor* is chosen annually from the number of aldermen, who are not impeded by age or sickness, or who have not been twice mayor, or borne that office within six years, and are thought to be every way qualified to undertake the duty. The office ceases annually on the 3d of February. The mayor of York assumes the title of *lord* in all writing or speaking to him; this honour was bestowed on him by Richard II. It is a place of great trust and honour; and, if used to its full extent, he is very near an absolute governor within his district. Persons of what quality soever, living or residing within the liberties, must obey his mandate or summons on any complaint exhibited against them. The judge of assize sits on his right-hand in the courts of justice, himself keeping the chair; neither does he drop the ensigns of his authority to any but the king himself, or the presumptive heir to the crown. At the sessions of peace he is supreme, being always a justice of the peace and one of the quorum. In council he has a casting voice; and in full senate no law nor act can be made without his concurrence.

The *Recorder* is, by virtue of his office, a justice of the peace and of the quorum. He sits at the lord-mayor's right hand as an assistant to him and the bench. He is chosen by the whole corporation, but must be approved of by his majesty before he can enter on his office. Besides

sides the recorder, there are two other counsel assigned the lord-mayor, called the *City Counsel*, who are also, in virtue of their offices, justices of the peace and of the quorum.

The *Aldermen* are chosen from the more respectable class of citizens, and that election is generally confined to those who have fined for, or served the office of sheriff: the fine for exemption from this office is generally 200l.; but when a citizen is chosen alderman, and refuses to stand, he is usually fined at the discretion of the court.

The *Sheriffs* are chosen annually on the 21st of September. They have a double function, ministerial and judicial. By the first they execute all processes and precepts of the courts of law, and make returns of the same; and by the next they have authority to hold several courts of a distinct nature. They collect all public profits, customs, and taxes of the city and county of the same. They have the charge of all prisoners for debt or misdemeanors. They view and inspect all weights, measures, &c. visit the markets, ride the fairs, and are answerable to the king's exchequer for all issues and profits arising from the office.

Beside these are a number of citizens, who, having passed the office of sheriff, become part of the privy-council, and, with the lord-mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, compose the Upper House. They are called the *Twenty-four*, though they may be more or less than that number.

The last, though not least in authority, are a body of men drawn from the junior or middling class of citizens, in number 72, and called the *Common Council* of the city. They are chosen out of the four wards, viz. Micklegate Ward, Bootham Ward, Monk Ward, and Walmgate Ward. They are eighteen in each ward, whose senior presides in his own, but have a foreman or speaker for the whole, who is elected annually. They represent the whole commonalty of the city; and are at all times to be attending
upon

upon the lord-mayor and aldermen, when summoned, to advise and consult the public weal and good of the city.

The *Chamberlains* were formerly twelve, ten, or eight in number; but for several years past their number has been no more than six. The principal, or lord-mayor's chamberlain, receives from the city's steward the rents collected by him, and all other profits accruing from fines, enfranchisements, charitable bequests, &c.; of all these he keeps an exact account, and has an order or draught signed by the lord-mayor for each disbursement. The other five have little more to do than to pay their money, and contribute to the expence of the treat.—Perhaps it would add to the well-earned reputation which the present members of the corporation have acquired, if this office were wholly abolished.

The *Town-clerk* is elected in the same manner as the recorder, and must, like him, have the approbation of the king before he enters on his office, which is of the greatest trust, as well as profit, in the gift of the corporation.

Members of Parliament.—The members for the city are Sir William Mordaunt Milner, Bart. and Richard Slater Milnes, Esq.—For the county, William Wilberforce and Henry Duncombe, Esqrs.

The Yorkshire Tontine.—This society was established in York in the year 1790. The inhabitants of the city and county, and various other parts of the kingdom, being persuaded of the benefit and utility of raising, by weekly contributions, a capital, to accumulate for the term of seven years, and afterwards to be divided in due proportion, did, in consequence of fundry advertisements published in the York and other newspapers during the preceding half-year, become contributors to a capital to be raised and applied accordingly, under the title of “THE YORKSHIRE TONTINE.” In the month of October, 1790, the time limited for entering the names of contributors,
it

it appeared that upwards of 46500 shares were subscribed for. This is a certain indication that the plan was generally well received; and at the expiration of the term, it will doubtless be of infinite service to immense numbers of people, particularly those in the inferior classes of society, for whose advantage Tontines of this description seem chiefly calculated.

Fairs.—There are a great many fairs kept yearly in York and the suburbs, to the great benefit, not only of the citizens, but of the county in general. Three fairs are held without Bootham-Bar, within the suburbs, on the north side of the city, on a plot of ground called the Horse-fair, for all sorts of cattle, viz. on Whitsun-Monday, Old St. Peter's day, and Old Lammas day. At the latter fair, from three o'clock on the 11th of August, to the same hour on the 13th, the sheriffs' authority of arresting any person within the city and suburbs is suspended, the archbishop's bailiff or substitute having the only power of executing any judicial process at that time.

Palmſun Fair—Is always held on Thursday before Palmſunday, in the streets of Walmgate, Fossgate, Colliergate, and Pavement, for all sorts of cattle.

All-Souls' Fair—Is held in the above streets on the 13th of November yearly, for cattle.

Martinmas Fair.—This fair is always kept in the streets aforeſaid, on the 22d of November annually. In the Pavement are held the ſtatutes for hiring ſervants, of whom there is always great plenty.

Candlemas Fair—Is held as above, on the Thursday and Friday before Old Candlemas day, for all ſorts of cattle.

St. Luke's Fair—Is held in Micklegate on Old St. Luke's day, for all ſorts of ſmall wares. It is commonly called *Diſh Fair*, from the quantity of diſhes, &c. brought to it.

Befide theſe, are two fairs for horſes held on Monday in the Auguſt race-week, and Monday in the firſt whole week before

before Christmas. There are, likewise, fairs held every other Thursday for horned cattle, &c.

Line Fairs.—Saturday before Old Candlemas-day; Saturday before Old Lady-day; Whitsun-Monday; Old St. Peter's day; Old Lammas-day; Saturday before Old Michaelmas; Saturday before Old Martinmas, and Saturday before Christmas-day.

Banks.—Crompton, Gray, and Eaton, in Newstreet;—Garforth, Raper, Swann, Clough, and Swann, in Spurriergate;—and Wilson, Smith, Hartley, Tweedy, and Oldfield, in High-Ousegate.

Principal Inns.—The Black-Swan, in Coneystreet, kept by Mr. Ambrose Batty; the George, in Coneystreet, by Mr. William Winn; Ringrose's Inn (late Bluit's), in Blakestreet, by Mr. John Ringrose; and the York Tavern, by Mr. Francis Pulleyn.

Principal Inns for Travellers.—The Black Bull, in Thursday-market, kept by Mr. John Bickers; the Elephant and Castle, in Skeldergate, by Mrs. Tamar Winfor; the Falcon, in Micklegate, by Mr. George Smithson; the George and Dragon, the bottom of Pavement, by Mr. Francis Elgin; the Golden Lion, in Thursday-Market, by Mr. John Sellers; the Old Sand-hill, in Colliergate, by Mrs. Tabitha Cawood; the Red Lion, near Monk-Bar, by Mrs. Hannah Pearson; Robin Hood, in Castlegate, by Mr. William Cartwright; Star-Inn, in Stonegate, by Mrs. Mary Flower; the White Horse, in Coppergate, by Mrs. Elizabeth Roscoa; the White Swan, in Pavement, by Mr. John Hardcastle; the White Swan and Sand-hill, in Petergate, by Mrs. Ann Watson, &c.

Weekly Newspapers.—Monday, the York Courant, published by Mr. George Peacock, in Coneystreet; Thursday, the York Chronicle, by Mr. William Blanchard, in Coppergate; and on Saturday, the York Herald, by Mr. Joseph Mawman, in High-Ousegate.

TIMES OF THE SEVERAL POSTS COMING TO, AND GOING
FROM THE CITY OF YORK.*Times of coming in.*

Every day—From London, and all parts south of York, about twelve o'clock at night.—N. B. No letters are received from London on *Tuesday*, but letters for all parts on this side thereof, are forwarded as usual.

Every day—From Wetherby, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Manchester, Liverpool, Skipton, Settle, Kirby-Lonsdale, and Kendal, at half past ten o'clock at night.—Boroughbridge, Catterick, Greta Bridge, Brough, Penrith, Carlisle, Annan, Dumfries, &c. the North of Ireland, and all parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland, at half past twelve o'clock at night.

Every day—From Easingwold, Thirsk, Northallerton, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Northumberland, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Edinburgh, and all parts north of that city about ten at night.

Every day—From Pocklington, Market-Weighton, Beverley, Hull, Malton, Whitby, and Scarborough, about nine at night.

Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday—From Helmsley, about seven o'clock at night.

Times of going out.

Every day—For London, and all parts South of York, at twelve at night.—N. B. No letters sent to London on *Friday*, but letters for all parts on this side thereof, are forwarded as usual.

Every day—For Wetherby, Skipton, Settle, Kirby-Lonsdale, and Kendal at half past nine on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; the other nights at twelve.—Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, Manchester, and Liverpool at twelve.—Boroughbridge, Catterick, Greta-Bridge, Brough, Penrith, Carlisle, Annan, Dumfries, &c. the north of Ireland, and all parts of Westmoreland and Cumberland every night at nine.

Every day—For Easingwold, Thirsk, Northallerton, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, Northumberland, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Edinburgh, and all parts North of that city, every night after the arrival of the mail-coach from London.

Every day—For Pocklington, Market-Weighton, Beverley, Hull, Malton, Whitby, and Scarborough, every night after the arrival of the mail-coach from London.

Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday—For Helmsley at six o'clock in the morning.

The Post-Office is situate next house, west of the Mansion-house; Mr. Thomas Oldfield is the postmaster. It remains open until half past ten every night, when letters for all the above places are received, after which the business of the office, from the arrival and departure of the several mails, renders it impossible to take in or deliver letters out before eight in the morning.

A LIST OF MAIL AND OTHER COACHES.

London—The Royal Mail Coach—Sets out every night, from the York Tavern, at 12 o'clock, to the Bull and Mouth Inn, Bull and Mouth-street.

London Highflyer Coach—Sets out every morning at 5 o'clock, from the York Tavern, arrives at the White Horse, Fetter-Lane, next day to dinner.

London New Post Coach, or Mercury, (late Paul Jones)—Sets out from the Black-Swan, in Coneystreet, every morning at 5 o'clock, and arrives at the Saracen's-Head, Snow-Hill, next day to dinner.

Newcastle and Edinburgh Mail—Every night from the York Tavern, after the arrival of the South Mail.

Newcastle Light Coach, or Highflyer—Sets out alternately from the York Tavern and Black-Swan, every morning at 5 o'clock.

Hull Mail—From the York Tavern every night after the arrival of the South Mail.

Hull Coach—Sets out every morning at 6 o'clock from the York Tavern, and White Horse in Coppergate, alternately.

Hull Coach—Sets out every afternoon at half past one o'clock, from the Black-Swan, Coneystreet, Sundays excepted.

Leeds, Birmingham, and Sheffield Light Coach—Sets out every morning at seven o'clock, from the York Tavern and Black-Swan alternately.

Leeds Coach—Sets out every day at two o'clock from the Black-Swan, Coneystreet.

Liverpool Royal Mail Coach—Sets out from the York Tavern immediately after the South Mail.

Scarborough

Scarborough and Whitby Mail Coach—Sets out 4 times a week to Scarborough and 3 to Whitby, after the departure of the South Mail, from the Black-Swan and York Tavern alternately.

Scarborough Coach—From the Black-Swan in Coneystreet, every morning at 11 o'clock, during the Scarborough season.

Harrogate and Knaresbro' Diligence—Sets out from the White Horse in Coppergate, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at six o'clock, during the summer season.

RATES OF CHAIRMEN AND COACHMEN, IN THE CITY
OF YORK,

As settled by Act of Parliament.

CHAIRS.

For every fare from any place within the walls of the city, or liberty of *St. Peter's*, to any place within the same; or to or from the Castle of *York*, or from any place without any bar or postern to any place without the same bar or postern, within the suburbs; or from any place within the walls of the said city or liberty, to any place without any bar or postern; or from any place without any bar or postern, to any place within the said city or liberty not exceeding half a mile, before ten at night—*Sixpence*.

The same after ten—*One shilling*.

And if any of the fares from the city or liberty into the suburbs, or from the suburbs into the city or liberty, or from any part of the suburbs to any other part of the suburbs, shall exceed half a mile, before ten—*One shilling*.

The same after ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

For waiting and carrying (including the fare) for the first hour before ten—*One shilling*.

And for every hour after, before ten—*Sixpence*.

And for the first hour after ten—*One shilling and sixpence*.

And for every hour after—*One shilling*.

☞ The chairmen may be obliged to stop as often as the person carried shall require, so as they are not detained above ten minutes in a sixpenny, and twenty minutes in a twelpenny fare.

COACHES.

COACHES.

The fare of every coach or chaise from any part of the city, suburbs, or liberty, to any part of the same, before ten at night—*One shilling.*

For the like after ten—*One shilling and sixpence.*

For the first hour waiting before ten—*One shilling and sixpence.*

For every hour after, till ten—*One shilling.*

If called into waiting after ten, for the first hour—*Two shillings.*

For every hour after—*One shilling and sixpence.*

OMITTED BEING INSERTED IN THEIR PROPER PLACES.

Assembly Rooms.—During the winter-season are 12 subscription concerts, which usually commence in November. Subscription-tickets, not transferable, 1l. 1s. each.—Nightly tickets to non-subscribers 3s. each. A concert and a ball on the Wednesday and Friday evenings, in the spring assize-week, towards a fund to carry on future winter-concerts. A ticket at the assize-concert 6s. which admits the bearer both nights. There are four benefit-concerts in the season, viz. for the first violin, the hautboy-player, the vocal performer, and the organist. Besides the above, there are concerts and balls during the races. All these are under the management and direction of Mr. Hudson, the first violin performer. In these rooms, in the winter season, there is an assembly on Monday nights.

There is also an Assembly-Room without Bootham-Bar, which is open the first Monday in May, and is continued every Monday and Friday during the summer season.

The Theatre-Royal—Is open at York on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from the beginning of February to the middle of May, and during the Summer-assizes and August race-week. The remainder of the year the company performs at Leeds, Wakefield, Pontefract, Doncaster, and Hull. The prices of tickets are, boxes 3s. pit 2s. galleries 1s. 6d. and 1s. except in the public weeks, when an advance of 6d. is made on each ticket.

Medicated Baths.—These baths are situated in Stonegate, under the direction of Theophilus Davye Garencieres, Esq.

THE END.